



MARTIAL WORLD

BOOK 17

Cocooned Cow

EPUB CREATION BY LISA HAYES

Martial World

(Wuji Tianxia)

(武极天下)

by

Cocooned Cow

(蚕茧里的牛)

Synopsis

In the Realm of the Gods, countless legends fought over a mysterious cube. However, after the battle it disappeared into the void. Lin Ming stumbles upon this mysterious cube and begins his journey to become the hero of the land.

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English Translation by Hyorinmaru @ [Wuxia World](#)

ePub conversion by Lisa Hayes @ [Hasseno Blog](#)

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Chapter 1601 - Havoc Flame Symbol

A Havoc Flame Symbol was formed from more than 800 tiny runes, and each tiny rune had its own profound structure.

In order to draw one up, one had to have excellent attainments in the divine runic arts and the divine runic master had to have a thorough understanding of the Fire Laws.

When the Havoc Flame Symbol was activated, it would erupt with an annihilating flame that could melt away mountains and evaporate rivers. This required that the divine runic master have an understanding of the Fire Laws that reached the sixth level Concept.

This was also another reason that Lin Ming chose the Havoc Flame Symbol. If he drew this symbol up then he would have a natural advantage over others because his Fire Laws already touched upon the seventh level Concept. Although he was inferior to Xiao Moxian, his understanding was still superior to that of most ordinary fire-attribute ordinary World Kings!

Lin Ming had originally inherited Torchriver's memories, and with his extraordinary soul force, understanding of the Asura Heavenly Dao, and deep understanding of the Fire Laws, he was able to easily draw up the first Havoc Flame Symbol. After undergoing a few problems, Lin Ming quickly produced a successful result.

The palm-sized divine runic symbol in his hand had a warm atmosphere to it.

This Havoc Flame Symbol was already successfully drawn up and matched every standard. As long as Lin Ming could draw up 19 more than he could complete the mission.

But Lin Ming didn't plan to do so.

Even if he completed the mission and obtained 50,000-60,000

contribution points then that was still meaningless. It was simply far too small a number.

He held onto the Havoc Flame Symbol and walked out of the divine runic symbol drawing room.

“Sir, may I help you?”

The young receptionist who had helped Lin Ming before bowed as she saw him, sweetly smiling. Towards this wealthy young divine runic master who also had outstanding looks, it was inevitable that a young girl like her would develop a good impression.

“I need an array formation to test the power of a divine runic symbol.”

“Of course.” The young receptionist smiled. “All divine runic masters that have rented our rooms may use our test array formation at no cost.”

The young receptionist led Lin Ming to another room. This room was completely sealed off and the walls and floor were all especially supported with array formations. In addition to the power of space locked in here, even a tremendously powerful divine runic symbol would find it hard to destroy this place.

The young girl pointed to a platform in the center. This was where the test array formation was.

Lin Ming took the Havoc Flame Symbol and stepped onto the platform. The young receptionist politely drew back. All divine runic masters were sensitive about their inheritances and kept them strictly confidential; it wasn't good manners to look at their experiments.

As the young girl left, Lin Ming started the array formation.

This array formation was in itself an illusory magic array. When Lin Ming activated the array formation his surroundings changed and several ancient great desolate beasts appeared.

These great desolate beasts were simulations created by the array formation. As they appeared, they turned to Lin Ming and savagely roared as if they wanted to eat him whole.

Facing these vicious beasts, Lin Ming slowly lifted the Havoc Flame Symbol.

Flooding the Havoc Flame Symbol with his true essence, hundreds of tiny runes shimmered together. A destructive power erupted from the Havoc Flame Symbol and with an explosive sound the several ancient desolate beasts were swept up in the waves of flames, many of the beasts turning to ash.

Some were severely wounded, but some only suffered minor injuries. There was even one that wasn't affected at all.

Hu - !

The illusory magic array vanished and all the ancient desolate beasts disappeared.

Lin Ming stepped down from the platform.

The light from the array disc flashed, producing an evaluation of Lin Ming's divine runic symbol.

“Power: Holy Lord injury level, one star.”

Lin Ming had inherited the memories of three divine runic masters thus he naturally knew what this evaluation meant. A Holy Lord injury level evaluation meant that this Havoc Flame Symbol could heavily wound or even kill a Holy Lord level martial artist.

And Holy Lord level injuries were divided into five magnitudes. A Holy Lord one star was the worst magnitude possible.

“Only a Holy Lord one star... it's a bit weak.”

Lin Ming shook his head, not too satisfied with this injury level. With his understanding of the seventh level Fire Laws, his strength as a fifth grade divine runic master, and also his comprehensions

of the Asura Heavenly Dao, the divine runic symbol he drew up was only able to severely wound the weakest of Holy Lords. He wasn't content with this result at all.

But, if any other divine runic masters were to hear Lin Ming's thoughts now, all of them might die from vomiting blood.

In the domain of divine runic arts, a sixth grade divine runic master was equivalent to a World King, a fifth grade divine runic master was equivalent to a Holy Lord, and a fourth grade divine runic master was equivalent to a Divine Lord.

Lin Ming had drawn up a peak fourth grade divine runic symbol. Ordinarily this level should be able to heavily injure a late Divine Lord or wound a half-step Holy Lord.

But now it was already exaggerated that Lin Ming's Havoc Flame Symbol had reached a Holy Lord one star injury level. Most importantly, this was the first time that Lin Ming had drawn it up!

How could anyone still live upon hearing this!

Lin Ming recalled that brilliant detonation of flames. In that explosion of flames, Lin Ming had carefully observed the entire process of how the energy within the Havoc Flame Symbol interacted with the Asura Heavenly Dao.

He discovered many places where the flow of energies didn't harmonize.

The divine runic master who invented the Havoc Flame Symbol in the past simply didn't understand the Asura Heavenly Dao. Rather, he had used his accumulated experiences to create the Havoc Flame Symbol. Now, to Lin Ming's eyes, there were many holes in the process where the Havoc Flame Symbol had fused with the Asura Heavenly Dao.

If these holes were fixed then the Havoc Flame Symbol would undergo a massive transformation. As for what this transformation would end up like, Lin Ming wasn't able to

estimate it at all.

Lin Ming would have to finish patching all of these holes before he could further rend judgment.

With these thoughts in mind, Lin Ming stepped out of the test room. He didn't even hear when the young receptionist greeted him; he had completely immersed himself in his own world.

After returning to his divine runic arts room, Lin Ming began the process of deduction.

He closed his eyes, meditating with the Asura Sutra in mind.

The Asura Sutra was the most current cultivation method of all the ones that Lin Ming possessed. Its grade was at least at the peak True Divinity realm, or possibly even surpassed the boundary of a True Divinity. Even though this cultivation method was still incomplete, the power behind it was incomprehensible!

To be more exact, describing the Asura Sutra as a cultivation method wasn't wholly accurate.

The Asura Sutra should be called a set of Laws. These were Laws that the Asura Road Master created and stood outside the Laws of the 33 Heavens. It was the 34th Heavenly Dao Law that stood on equal footing with the Laws of the 33 Heavens.

The Asura Heavenly Dao was complex and difficult to understand. The innumerable patterns were ever-changing and impossibly complex! To repair the problems within the Havoc Flame Symbol would be easier said than done!

Lin Ming took out several dozen jade slips, recording all of his calculations within them.

It was impossible to write down the structural patterns of the Heavenly Dao Laws in a journal like mortals did. These different structural patterns had energy transformations that were complex to the extreme. All of these transformations needed to be felt with one's sense, and then engraved onto a jade slip.

Like this, Lin Ming lost himself in deducing the Asura Heavenly Dao. He compared the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws with the tiny runes in the Havoc Flame Symbol, modifying all the areas that were in disharmony.

From time to time, Lin Ming needed to use materials to draw up tiny runes and test the effects of the modifications.

But in most situations, there would be new problems with the modifications Lin Ming made. Sometimes the entire structure of tiny runes would collapse due to the instability of the energy!

To make these sorts of deductions was far too much work!

Lin Ming's current understanding of the Asura Heavenly Dao, when compared to other divine runic masters', could be called the difference between clouds and mud.

But compared to the entire Asura Heavenly Dao, what Lin Ming understood was only the tip of the iceberg; he was far from being sufficient!

This also caused many new problems to occur as Lin Ming was modifying the Havoc Flame Symbol. His understanding of the Laws was too lacking.

Peng!

Another brilliant burst of flames appeared in front of Lin Ming. The several dozen tiny runes he drew up exploded, indicating that new problems occurred in the revisions Lin Ming had just made.

This situation had already occurred countless times. The results that he had carefully calculated again and again were proven wrong during experimentation and had to be redone once more. This sort of frustration couldn't be tolerated by most people.

However, Lin Ming's patience and stubbornness far surpassed that of others.

With every wrong calculation he would begin anew, making

deduction after deduction until he made it right.

Like this, Lin Ming made deductions through the day and night. He had already achieved a wholly absorbed state, not eating food or drinking any water. It was only when Lin Ming completely exhausted his soul force that he stopped. Then, he revolved the Divine Mist Heart Mantra, restoring his soul force and beginning once again. Soon, ten days passed in an instant...

Chapter 1602 – Suyu's Troubles

In his high degree of concentration, Lin Ming simply didn't feel time pass by. It was only when he reached into his spatial ring with his sense to take out several materials for more verifications did he discover there was nothing there.

Lin Ming was stunned. Then he realized he had used up all the materials he purchased.

Originally, when Lin Ming was at Suyu's counter he had purchased enough materials to create 20 Havoc Flame Symbols. But now, because he had been experimenting with all these materials and he would have to throw out the materials after every failure, this quick consumption caused him to use up all his materials for Havoc Flame Symbols in just ten days.

"If I knew this I would've bought more..."

Lin Ming shook his head and walked out of his divine runic arts room.

After ten days of continuous calculations, because Lin Ming had continually overdrawn his soul force his eyes were bloodshot, his hair was messy, and he appeared haggard.

With this sort of grubby appearance, it contrasted sharply with divine runic masters that paid such great attention to their image.

As Lin Ming walked, many divine runic masters looked at him with strange and surprised eyes, as if they had seen some ugly monster walking before them. Lin Ming ignored them all. He arrived at the Mission Hall and placed 2 nine sun jades on the counter of the temporary material area, saying, "Havoc Flame Symbol material, 100 portions."

This temporary material area was especially established to help divine runic masters complete their missions. The materials inside were jointly provided by the Extreme Star Holy Lands and the

Divine Runic Masters Guild.

As for the price of materials, they were lower than market price. This was also the Extreme Star Holy Land's desire to encourage divine runic masters to complete the missions they took up.

Although the Extreme Star Holy Lands was a peak Empyrean influence, their consumption of resources during war was terrifying and their materials storehouse wasn't too abundant.

And now, Lin Ming had come to buy materials for 100 symbols. The person in charge of this material area certainly wasn't willing to sell them to Lin Ming. The amount of materials stored here was on a blade's edge; how could he endure it if these materials were wasted by others or they were taken out to be sold at an even lower price?

"Why do you want so many materials for drawing Havoc Flame Symbols?"

The person in charge of the material area asked. He was a dark and thin middle-aged man from the Extreme Star Holy Lands.

"To complete a mission and do some research while I'm at it." Lin Ming calmly replied.

"Research?" The dark and thin middle-aged man frowned. "My apologies, but our materials are not for you to research with, but to help you aid the warfront. These materials all have the potential to save a martial artist's life. If you do not have a mission scroll then we cannot provide materials to you."

Lin Ming's mission only required him to draw up 20 symbols, but now he actually wanted to buy materials for another 100 of them. The materials center wasn't willing to sell the materials to him.

This caused Lin Ming to frown. If he went to other places to buy materials, it didn't matter too much if they were more expensive. The problem here was that he would have to go to many places to buy these materials and Lin Ming's mind was currently filled with

charts and diagrams of deductions of the Asura Heavenly Dao. Once his concentration was interrupted then he would lose any inspirations he had. The loss would be tremendous.

Lin Ming said, “I don’t need to buy at reduced prices. I will buy according to market price.”

Lin Ming said, making a concession. Because of the war, the market price for these materials had sharply risen. If Lin Ming wanted to buy at market price, he would have to pay 50% more origin energy symbols for these materials.

The middle-aged man hesitated for a moment. He said, “I’ll ask for you...”

He pulled out a sound transmitting talisman and reported this matter to Suyu. Even though the market price for these materials was rising day after day, these materials also became increasingly scarce. Even if it were at market price, the Extreme Star Holy Lands still didn’t want to sell them.

To this middle-aged man’s report, Suyu’s answer was extremely cold. She seemed to have many thoughts weighing down her mind and couldn’t summon any interest to care about this sort of trivial matter.

She faintly said, “Just let him do as he wishes. He is someone that Elder Xue recognizes and there must be some reason this is so. Although I don’t see it... perhaps he might have a chance of becoming an outstanding divine runic master in the future...”

Although materials were scarce, the amount of materials that Lin Ming alone could use up was limited. Suyu was disinclined to haggle over this chump change.

After Suyu responded, the middle-aged man immediately began to ready the materials.

Without speaking further, Lin Ming took out more nine sun jades and exchanged them for the materials. Then he left, returning to

his divine runic arts room.

Seeing Lin Ming leave, the middle-aged man made another report to Suya.

However, Suya didn't have the mind to listen to such minor matters. Today, she had received an Extreme Star Command issued by the highest power of the Extreme Star Holy Lands, Extreme Star Heavenly Palace. Moreover, the one who issued this order was the Vice Palace Master, the second-in-command of the entire Extreme Star Holy Lands as well as an Empyrean level character!

With this Extreme Star Command, a mission was passed down to Suya that she felt was nearly impossible to complete. In half a year, she had to quickly transport 80,000 fourth grade divine runic symbols and 10,000 fifth grade divine runic symbols to the warfront!

A divine runic symbol was an extremely expensive consumable treasure. When a martial artist fought for months at a time, they might use up four or five divine runic symbols!

This was also under the assumption that the martial artists of the Extreme Star Holy Lands would save any divine runic symbols they had until they absolutely had to use them.

In fact, there were some soldiers that, because of their lack of divine runic symbols, would lose their lives in battles that they would have otherwise won.

Thinking of this, Suya felt as if a great stone pressed down on her heart, making it hard for her to breathe.

Military commands must be followed at all costs. If she failed in her mission then she would be punished by the palace rules!

"80,000 fourth grade divine runic symbols... 10,000 fifth grade divine runic symbols... and only half a year to complete this mission... just how can I possibly accomplish this?"

Suya reclined in her chair, her heart racing with anxiety. Ever since the outbreak of war earlier in the year, she felt that the weight on her shoulders had been far too heavy.

Before this she had put forth a proposal to increase the mission rewards to incentivize the divine runic masters. But, this proposal was immediately rejected by Extreme Star Heavenly Palace. The reasoning was simple: every point that the Extreme Star Holy Lands rewarded was exchanged with the Divine Runic Masters Guild through resources.

The Extreme Star Holy Lands was a top Empyrean influence with a legacy of a billion years. It was a massive organization with many assets and sources of income, but in this war, the consumption of all resources in every aspect was astronomical. It would be difficult for the Extreme Star Holy Lands to continue consuming resources at an even higher rate.

Without more points as a reward, it would be difficult for Suyu to complete her mission.

However, her complaints fell on deaf ears. To her, the commands of Extreme Star Heavenly Palace were ironclad. They responded to her, "If we could increase the point rewards however much we wanted, what would we still need you for?"

These words left Suyu feeling especially weak. With such a pressing mission weighing down on her, could she actually be forced to sell her body to complete it?

However, to those in power, whether it was an individual's body or life, everything they had was insignificant compared to the entire war situation.

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At this time within the divine runic arts room, Lin Ming naturally didn't know about the difficult position Suyu had been placed in nor did he care. He was completely immersed in altering

the Havoc Flame Symbol.

This extremely intense work caused Lin Ming to neglect eating and sleeping. He made countless deductions and failed countless experiments. On the divine runic table in front of Lin Ming, there was a large pile of jade slips that he used to deduce and analyze the structures of the Asura Heavenly Dao.

It had to be known that these jade slips had an extremely large capacity to store information. But, they were completely filled with Lin Ming's observations and experimentations of the tiny rune structures. From this it could be seen how many calculations Lin Ming had done.

Through these nights and days of experimentations, Lin Ming couldn't sense the passing of time. Without noticing it, 40 days passed.

Lin Ming's face was haggard and his eyes were bloodshot. In front of him were scattered scraps of materials as well as haphazardly dumped divine runic symbols. All of these divine runic symbols were defective products!

Lin Ming had used nearly two months of time to try transforming the Havoc Flame Symbol so that it conformed to the Asura Heavenly Dao. But, he failed countless times.

With every defeat he tried again. But in the end, he still wasn't able to succeed.

Lin Ming felt as if he had no more strength within him. After continuously failing again and again, no matter how much resolve Lin Ming had, he would still feel tired and annoyed.

Now, he had been stuck on a single problem for a full ten days. He was unable to draw up the fire energy in a way that agreed with the revolution of the Asura Heavenly Dao.

And this time, Lin Ming's 100 portions of materials had been almost used up again. He still had to buy materials and he hadn't

even succeeded in earning any money yet. All of this cost him a considerable amount of his remaining wealth. Lin Ming couldn't help but ruefully smile.

3 billion points wasn't easy to earn. Even if he had many advantages that others didn't, it still wasn't enough.

Just as he opened the doors of the divine runic arts room, Lin Ming was met with Xiao Moxian walking in.

She was carrying a bowl of soup in her hands.

Although Lin Ming didn't need to eat anything, he had still used up his soul force and energy and needed to supplement it. This soup that Xiao Moxian carried in was made with dozens of types of medicinal soul materials and was one of the highly praised dishes of the divine runic master community. After drinking it, one could speed up the recovery of their soul force and nourish their spiritual sea. The effects were extremely good.

Correspondingly, the price of this soup was high and the cooking process was extremely troublesome.

Because Lin Ming had wholeheartedly studied the Havoc Flame Symbol, Xiao Moxian had been worried over Lin Ming's ghastly appearance and forgetfulness in eating. Thus, she had learnt some recipes from Old Xue and this was the third time she had brought a bowl of soup to Lin Ming.

Seeing Xiao Moxian appear at this time, Lin Ming felt a sense of warmth surge in his heart. A great deal of the frustration he accumulated from his failures also disappeared. "Xian'er, it's fine for you to focus on your own cultivation, there is no need for you to waste your time making soup for me. I'm fine."

"Look at you, you've already become a beggar."

Xiao Moxian reprimanded as she laid down the bowl of soup. Of course, she was only casually speaking and she knew that trying to change Lin Ming's mind on this matter was useless. Moreover,

overdrawing his soul force might not be bad for Lin Ming. With the Divine Mist Heart Mantra that Empyrean Divine Mist had passed down, after one overdrew their soul force they could restore it again to full, allowing one's soul force to stably grow.

Xiao Moxian lightly lifted the lid of the bowl and blew a deep breath over it. As Lin Ming looked at Xiao Moxian's gentle figure and her slender white hands, he unknowingly became lost in thought.

Xiao Moxian saw Lin Ming staring at her in a daze and was somewhat embarrassed. Just as she was about to say something, Lin Ming suddenly raised his fists and shouted out in surprise, "I've got it!"

"W-what?" Xiao Moxian said, puzzled.

"I've figured it out! I've figured out how to solve the problem!"

Lin Ming was shaking with excitement, but Xiao Moxian actually puffed out her cheeks, her face blushing red, "You are really... really, crazy..."

Chapter 1603 – Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol

Lin Ming took out some of the remaining materials in his spatial ring. As he thought more and more about the calculations and deductions he just made, his eyes grew increasingly bright. The fire energy of the Havoc Flame Symbol was unable to match the Asura Heavenly Dao pattern structure, however, the truth was that there wasn't a flaw in the Asura Heavenly Dao pattern construct but that Lin Ming's Fire Laws were unable to reach the level of the Asura Heavenly Dao!

If he could borrow help from Xiao Moxian's nirvana flames and add in his own heavenly tribulation flames, combining the two types of flames together, just what would that be like?

Lin Ming could feel that he had found the most essential point. As he was revising the Havoc Flame Symbol, he limited his viewpoint to the structure of the runes and the fusion of the Asura Heavenly Dao. But, he forgot the attack shape of the Havoc Flame Symbol – the destructive flame itself!

Xiao Moxian's flames were the nirvanic flames of a Dark Phoenix. These flames possessed the attribute of destruction.

As for Lin Ming's own heavenly tribulation flames, they also possessed the attribute of destruction.

If both could perfectly fuse together then the Havoc Flame Symbol would be able to reach its greatest heights!

Only this sort of perfect flame could better match the Asura Heavenly Dao.

"Xian'er, let me borrow your nirvanic flames!" Lin Ming threw his remaining materials into the processing array formation as he excitedly spoke to Xiao Moxian.

Xiao Moxian could also see that Lin Ming's revision process had

reached a critical point. She naturally wouldn't play a game on Lin Ming because of her little bit of anger from being embarrassed just then. She flicked her finger and a black flame ignited in her palm.

This flame seemed to have a mind of its own. It transformed into all different shapes in the air, like a Dark Phoenix dancing in the skies.

Lin Ming thrust out his hand and opened the Heretical God Force. The heavenly tribulation flames were released by him. Compared to Xian Moxian's flames, Lin Ming's heavenly tribulation flames seemed more violent as if they would burn through the void.

The two types of flames slowly melted into one.

Originally, these two types of flames were destructive in nature, and combining them could easily cause an explosion. But for more than 20 years, Lin Ming and Xiao Moxian had lived together like a mortal couple and their thoughts and hearts had long since connected. Moreover, because they had been dual cultivating for such a long time and exchanged energy between their bodies countless times, their bodies were already in perfect harmony with each other.

Thus, the two flames that Lin Ming and Xiao Moxian released fused together perfectly.

The flames blazed red and black and then suddenly calmed down, quietly burning in the air. There didn't seem to be any heat coming from this flame. There wasn't the lively intelligence within Xiao Moxian's nirvanic flames or the fiery savageness in Lin Ming's heavenly tribulation flames.

But, Lin Ming knew that this peaceful-seeming flame was actually terrifying. It didn't seem to emit any heat because the heat condensed within the flames had reached the limit!

Looking at this flame, Lin Ming flicked his ten fingers and

constantly threw all sorts of materials into the array formation, quickly extracting, heating, grinding, and processing the juices to draw up the divine runic symbol.

Lin Ming quickly wet his divine runic pen with these juices and started drawing.

At this time Lin Ming had already consumed a great deal of his soul force. But because of the vivid excitement that wiped away all exhaustion from his eyes, he was more than capable of completing this divine runic symbol drawing.

Time passed. Lin Ming drew the divine runic symbol in the air, the illustrious patterns leaving Xiao Moxian dazzled.

After two hours, Lin Ming had finished!

In that moment, the entire divine runic symbol emitted a brilliant luminesce, blinding to the eyes!

Lin Ming took out a symbol talisman and rubbed the symbol in the rune on it, forming a complete divine runic symbol. The last step, fusing in the Asura Heavenly Dao, had already been deduced countless times by Lin Ming and was thoroughly memorized within his heart.

Lin Ming revolved all the true essence within his body according to the Asura Sutra. Countless rune Laws gathered towards him, pouring themselves into the Havoc Flame Symbol. After an incense stick of time, the Havoc Flame Symbol was complete!

Looking at the newly transformed Havoc Flame Symbol, Lin Ming was filled with all sorts of emotions. For this symbol paper that was only several inches long, he had paid a tremendous amount of time and effort and now his perseverance had borne fruit!

This final product also had many flaws. It was because of Lin Ming's current state of mind as well as some deductions still not being perfected. Thus, there were many areas to improve.

Lin Ming estimated he would need another ten days to create a new and perfect Havoc Flame Symbol!

“To create this flame symbol, one needs to reach the seventh level Concept in comprehensions of the Fire Laws. This flame symbol itself has also fused with nirvanic flames and heavenly tribulation flames, so let’s call it the Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol.”

Lin Ming casually made up a name for his own work. This Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol represented the current peak of Lin Ming’s divine runic arts and understandings of the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws.

He thought to himself that when he needed to refine the Ravenous Wolf Heaven Pill in the future as well as the other pills for the Nine Stars of the Dao Palace, he would need to rely on medicinal runic divine symbols. Thus, it would be best if he revised the medicinal runic symbols in order to increase the amount by which they enhanced a pill to its limit. At least it would help him not waste any of the precious materials he purchased.

“You succeeded?” Xiao Moxian happily laughed from nearby.

“Mm.” Lin Ming nodded. Although this work wasn’t perfect, ten days from now he would be able to draw a perfect Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol. “Let’s go buy some more materials now.”

In order to draw up 20 Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbols, Lin Ming estimated he would need another 30 portions of materials. The difficulty wasn’t minor to begin with and this was with the failure rate factored in.

Thus, Lin Ming returned to the material sales section once again. By now, the price had risen by another 50%. This price was already over twice the normal price.

Lin Ming didn’t haggle. He paid the nine sun jades and obtained

the materials.

After returning to his room, Lin Ming didn't immediately set off on working. Rather, he sat in meditation for 20 hours, adjusting his breathing and mindset.

Then, Lin Ming began his crazy drawing process. He used a total of eight days to draw up 21 divine runic symbols.

The extra one was for Lin Ming to keep in hand.

"You're finally done?"

Xiao Moxian happily asked as she saw the many divine runic symbols.

"I'm done!"

Every single divine runic symbol had the Lin character written on the bottom.

This was the mark left behind by the creator. This sort of mark was left behind by the person's sense, and because the fluctuations of every person's sense were different, it wasn't able to be faked.

To a famous divine runic master, their mark was their brand. As long as their mark was left behind on a divine runic symbol it would cause the price to dramatically rise.

Looking at the Lin character on the bottom right of the divine runic symbols, Lin Ming felt a deep sense of satisfaction. He wanted a brand of his own.

During these ten days, Lin Ming had made a very important modification to the Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol. This modification caused the power of the Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol to be reduced by a great deal but it also caused it to have an unbelievably special effect.

If this effect was known by other divine runic masters, it would create waves within the entirety of Divine Rune City.

If Lin Ming wanted to earn 3 billion points he would have to

depend on the quality of the divine runic symbols. It was impossible for him to rely on quantity.

Lin Ming picked out one divine runic symbol from the stack of 21 and then brought the remaining 20 towards the Mission Division.

It was currently night and the large Mission Division seemed particularly lonely. There were only a dozen some people present.

Lin Ming immediately spotted Suyu behind her counter at the end of the Mission Division Hall.

Late at night, Suyu was wearing a red silk dress, looking similar to a negligee. The loose silk dress wasn't able to hide Suyu's explosive body.

She was lazily lying back on a couch, her eyes closed and her eyelashes gently trembling, as if she was profoundly weary.

Beside her was a small table made from iron vines with a glass of red wine on top of it.

This kind of woman was originally a rare beauty of the world. No matter how she moved she would arouse 10,000 amorous and enchanting feelings.

Suyu had already noticed Lin Ming and didn't care for him at all.

It was only when Lin Ming stood in front of her counter and placed the 20 Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbols on the countertop did Suyu slowly open her eyes.

"I'm here to hand in the mission."

Lin Ming clearly said.

Lin Ming swept her eyes over the 20 Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbols. Of course, in her eyes, they were Havoc Flame Symbols.

Suyu also had some achievements in the divine runic arts. She could see from a glance that there wasn't a problem with these finished Havoc Flame Symbols.

“You’ve finished...” Suya looked at Lin Ming with surprise. She took up the wine glass, taking a sip, without any expression on her face. “After three whole months, you’ve consumed 150 portions of materials to create 20 Havoc Flame Symbols...”

Suya faintly spoke of Lin Ming’s ‘good work’.

For a normal peak fourth grade divine runic master, it would usually take them around 10 days and 30 some portions of materials to draw up 20 Havoc Flame Symbols.

But Lin Ming, whether it was time or materials, had used up eight or nine times that of an ordinary divine runic master. This was simply far too pathetic.

And even so, Suya didn’t believe that Lin Ming had drawn up these divine runic symbols by himself. He likely had some Elders helping him, otherwise how could a young divine runic master draw up a peak fourth grade Havoc Flame Symbol?

She believed that Lin Ming was using the missions she issued as a chance to practice his own divine runic arts. Suya didn’t feel good about this at all, especially when she had her own heavy mission weighing her down.

However, no matter what was said, Lin Ming was still a young divine runic master with a bright future, otherwise it would have been impossible for him to obtain Elder Xue’s recognition. This was a point that she couldn’t deny.

Thus, she didn’t mock Lin Ming. She simply said lazily, “You can leave them there and go.”

The 20 Havoc Flame Symbols, when compared to 80,000 fourth grade divine runic symbols, were nothing but a drop in a bucket of water. There was naturally no need to have any great reaction at all.

Still, it was a surprise that Lin Ming had completed this mission. She believed that he had simply come here to waste her time and

play around three months ago.

“Hey, just what sort of attitude is that!!”

Xiao Moxian unhappily shouted! These were things that Lin Ming had worked diligently and arduously on for the last three months, neglecting to eat or sleep, and yet Suyu was looking as if she didn't care at all. How could Xiao Moxian not be annoyed by this?

In her eyes, this sensual woman in front of her couldn't even qualify as Lin Ming's concubine, so what was she being so arrogant about?

Chapter 1604 – Handing in the Mission

Xiao Moxian was originally the bright pearl in Empyrean Demondawn's eyes, and within the monster race she was considered a little princess.

From birth to adulthood, Xiao Moxian had been a star that countless planets revolved around. There were countless young elites that did everything they could to win her favor and innumerable Elders who praised her to the heavens.

In the Divine Realm, whether it was the monster race, demon race, or human race, as long as Xiao Moxian was mentioned, it would be like the arrival of a legend. She was the proudest daughter of heaven, a mystical woman who left all the chosen prides of heavens drowning in love.

In this sort of situation, Xiao Moxian was considerably proud in her heart. This was a type of arrogance she was born with, one that belonged to the most superb woman of a generation.

However, when she was with Lin Ming, she had always taken him as the center. Whether it was giving her primordial yin to Lin Ming, dual cultivating with him, busily following him around everywhere, or even cooking up soup for him, everything she did had been for him. In front of Lin Ming, she didn't display her usual haughtiness and arrogance.

Like this, Xiao Moxian would absolutely not allow other women to put on appearances in front of Lin Ming.

How could an arrogant woman like herself possibly endure another woman mocking her man?

She long felt ill when she looked at this Suya, and now she wanted to walk over and give her two slaps to the face.

Sensing Xiao Moxian's strong hostility, Suya frowned. She continued to lay back on her couch, not bothering to move at all.

“What? You want to hit me? This is the special area of the Extreme Star Holy Lands and also where I work. If you do anything to me I will recognize it as an attempt to destroy the cooperative relationship between the Extreme Star Holy Lands and the Divine Runic Masters Guild. If any losses are incurred and the war effort is delayed, can you take on responsibility for this?”

Suya’s voice was indifferent, but there was a clear threat behind her words. “If you have nothing else then you can leave. I won’t send you off!”

Suya didn’t place Xiao Moxian’s threat in her eyes. She clearly had her own strength and was confident in herself.

“This woman is hiding her cultivation...”

Lin Ming deeply looked at Suya and yet wasn’t able to see what her cultivation was. This was a method similar to Mo Brightmoon’s.

Lin Ming estimated that Suya wasn’t weak at all. If she was sent by the Extreme Star Holy Lands and was also responsible for all contact between them and the Divine Runic Masters Guild, as well as being the person in charge here, then she definitely wasn’t some common person.

Moreover, Old Xue had also reminded him to not view Suya as just a beautiful vase. She had her own exquisite methods.

“Let’s not argue with her. Xian’er, let’s go.”

Lin Ming grabbed Xiao Moxian’s hand.

Xiao Moxian could barely endure this insult. But at this time she really couldn’t do anything to Suya.

“Those divine runic symbols...” Xiao Moxian pointed to the 20 divine runic symbols on the countertop. Lin Ming had spent a great deal of energy and time drawing up those divine runic symbols. If they were handed over like this then that was far too great a loss!

Xiao Moxian had watched Lin Ming's three months of hard work. Those were the result of Lin Ming's painstaking effort and they also concerned whether or not Lin Ming would be able to smoothly open the second Dao Palace of the Nine Stars of the Dao Palace in the future. It would even affect the results of the final smelting trial.

Thus, Xiao Moxian was even more nervous than Lin Ming was.

She felt that Lin Ming would need to receive at least several dozen million contribution points for these 20 divine runic symbols for it to be even.

But Lin Ming simply smiled gently at her and said, "It doesn't matter."

He believed that gold would always shine in the end.

As Lin Ming was walking away, Suyu was a bit startled. She said, "You don't want to take your contribution points?"

According to the agreement, Lin Ming would receive 50,000-60,000 contribution points upon completing the mission.

"Raindrop, pay Sir Lin the contribution points."

As Suyu spoke, she continued to lazily lean back on her couch. She didn't intend on speaking to Lin Ming again.

To Suyu, Lin Ming and Xiao Moxian were characters on the level of little brothers and sisters, filled with a vigorous youth and loving to compete with others. However, their antics had no effect on Suyu.

Only a peak fifth grade or sixth grade divine runic master would have Suyu standing up to greet them and see them off. For them, she would even personally process the payment of their contribution points.

With Suyu's orders, a green-clothed Raindrop walked forwards, carrying a pink jade slip in her hands. This jade slip had the

contribution points recorded within it.

This green-clothed girl's manners were quite humble. She offered forth the pink jade slip and said in a soft voice, "Sir Lin, these are your contribution points. There are a total of 60,000. Please verify them."

The green-clothed girl gently poured her true essence into the jade slip and a brilliant light flashed atop it. Runes began to appear in the air like flashing stars.

These runes were only for accounting; there was no other effect. As long as Lin Ming received them with his divine runic masters badge then these runes would become his points.

The runes for contribution points seemed simple but creating fakes was impossible. This was because every rune had a corresponding twin rune within the Divine Runic Masters Guild. Once it was used up the two twin runes would collide and destroy each other.

If one created a fake rune, there would not be such an effect because no matter how clever a divine runic master was, they still couldn't change the rune record within the guild headquarters.

To a third grade divine runic master, 60,000 contribution points was an absolutely massive sum of wealth.

However, Suyu didn't expect that Lin Ming would lightly smile and say, "No need."

"Mm? What do you mean?" Suyu looked at Lin Ming with surprise. Turning in a complete mission and receiving points was a completely justified course of action and yet he didn't want to receive them? Then what was the point of taking on missions?

In the Divine Runic Masters Guild, contribution points were much more precious than more common forms of wealth like nine sun jades. This was because many rare materials required contributions points for purchase. A sixth grade divine runic

master would never complain that they had too many contribution points.

Lin Ming casually said, “Let’s just leave it like this. I will temporarily not take my contribution points reward for completing the 20 divine runic symbols.”

Lin Ming wasn’t interested in only 60,000 contribution points. To put it more bluntly, this was like trying to send away a beggar with change. What he needed was 3 billion points; taking or leaving 60,000 points made no difference to that end sum.

If he took it then that was equal to giving his own 20 Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbols for free. Lin Ming wasn’t stupid enough to do something like that.

But if he didn’t take the reward then these 20 Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbols could be considered as being lent out. Lin Ming said he wouldn’t receive the points reward temporarily; that didn’t mean he would give them away.

“Why don’t you want them now? Do you think my Extreme Star Holy Lands lacks points to reward you?” Suya’s words had a faint arrogance to them. Although she was being pushed around and was in a mess due to the Extreme Star Command issued by Extreme Star Heavenly Palace, to outsiders, Suya was still the calm and confident woman she was before.

She was just like these high and mighty arrogant divine runic masters. As long as she left the confines of her room she would always be dressed properly and impeccably, revealing nothing but her perfect temperament and good image in order to avoid losing any face.

Lin Ming faintly smiled, “Lady Suya says that, but at the same time I do not need your points.”

He responded to Suya, countering her words.

Suya looked at Lin Ming with surprise. Her lips curved up in a

playful smile. She mockingly said, “If I’m not wrong, up until now Sir Lin’s contribution points should have been at zero... I heard that you left the Divine Runic Masters Guild for a long time and didn’t receive a salary during that period. And now that you’ve come back for three months, you still haven’t collected any accounts. If you did, then according to your standard as a third grade divine runic master, shouldn’t you have... well... five points?”

The Divine Runic Masters Guild only offered a pitiful salary for low level divine runic masters. This was to encourage divine runic masters to take on missions. The guild had no interest in supporting bums.

A third grade divine runic master would only receive 20 points every year. Lin Ming had been back for three months so he should have received five points.

“Sir Lin, you only have five points so are you sure you don’t need these 60,000 points?”

Suya’s smile became increasingly wide and bright. She originally thought that her verbal attack was strong enough to leave a mark, but she never imagined that Lin Ming wouldn’t be embarrassed at all. Instead, he smiled and said, “Miss Suyu, you’ve investigated quite clearly but there is no need for you to worry about my salary. Perhaps a month from now, my total amount of points will have reached a considerable level. There even might be people scrambling to ask me to produce divine runic symbols...”

Lin Ming’s words were subtle. He only used vague terms like ‘considerable’ and ‘might be people’.

However, as Suyu heard this, she thought that this Lin Ming was simply incorrigible.

Initially, Lin Ming had put on some act to take a look at fifth grade missions and ended up choosing fourth grade missions. Then, after three whole months passed, he used 150 portions of

materials and an amount of time nearly 10 times what others would take to produce 20 divine runic symbols. Moreover, he likely had to request help from someone to finish this mission.

Suya already felt that she had given him sufficient face in not ruining his act last time, but he was still continuing it.

He was clearly poor and yet he didn't want to take the contribution points after turning in the mission. He was pretending to be a wealthy person and even his smile seemed to carry a profoundly fake taste to it.

Then, he actually dared to say that a month from now there would be some people who would be scrambling to ask him to make divine runic symbols. And, she could feel that the 'some people' Lin Ming was referring to was actually pointing to herself.

She was disinclined to bother with a ridiculous fool like Lin Ming. She lightly said, "I have no idea who will be scrambling for you to make divine runic symbols in the future, but I don't have any intention of doing so. If you want to slap yourself in the face by putting on such a stupid farce then go ahead. If you don't wish to receive those 60,000 points then I won't force you either. I don't have the interest or time to play around with you. Today's transactions are over now. I thank you for handing in your mission and I won't be seeing you off."

As Suyu spoke she picked up her wine glass, gently swishing it around and taking a sip.

The red wine shimmered along her ruby red lips. When coordinated with her long loose dress and her slightly visible breasts, she exuded an alluring sex appeal.

Lin Ming smiled and left the Mission Division with Xiao Moxian.

Extreme Star Heavenly Palace was in drastic need of divine runic symbols. Three days later, the 20 divine runic symbols that Lin Ming drew up were sent to the front lines.

The ones that obtained this batch of divine runic symbols were a ten man squad of Holy Lords.

The squad captain was known as Dunepeak and he was a late Holy Lord powerhouse. The other squad members were all at the early Holy Lord realm.

This squad had already fought on the front lines for a long time and was in dire need of supplies.

Now, they finally obtained 20 Havoc Flame Symbols. And the bottom right corners of these Havoc Flame Symbols had a Lin character inscribed on them.

Chapter 1605 – Special Effect

For the squad led by Dunepeak, a peak fourth grade divine runic symbol was just barely enough. The effects were far inferior to those of a true fifth grade divine runic symbol.

The ten of them were all at the Holy Lord realm. According to the cultivation of a Holy Lord martial artist, they had the strength to use a fifth grade divine runic symbol. As for a sixth grade divine runic symbol, their cultivation wasn't enough; they simply weren't able to activate one.

“Captain, the Heavenly Fire Symbols we applied for haven't been approved. They've only sent us these little things.”

A squad member slapped the 20 Havoc Flame Symbols on a table, looking a bit depressed.

“What are you talking about? What are you calling ‘little things’? These are peak fourth grade Havoc Flame Symbols and their effects aren't much worse than those of fifth grade divine runic symbols. We should be happy that we're able to use them. Do you know how tight the current supply of divine runic symbols and pills is right now? The warfront consumes massive amounts of every type and many squads like us are fighting bravely without anything to help them and yet we've got so many supplies to use!

“Cheer up guys! Some of you come from the outer Asura Road and some of you come from the 33 universes. In your universes do you have something like our divine runic symbols? Isn't fighting just the same? When we battle others we fight mainly by ourselves. These divine runic symbols only serve a supportive role.”

“Captain is right!”

After being berated by the captain, the other squad members seemed to perk up, many of them seemingly reignited. Indeed, even without divine runic symbols they could still fight!

“Everyone gets two Havoc Flame Symbols. This means that your lives can be saved two times. Make sure to be careful when you use them. Now, let’s go!”

The captain waved his hand and the rest of the squad followed.

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War was like a blazing inferno, a raging fire, fierce and tragic!

Every day a massive number of masters perished. If an ordinary Holy Land was to be sucked up into this war between two goliaths they would soon be ruined without even dregs remaining.

The spiritas Extreme Star Holy Lands and the saint Heaven Strife Holy Lands had a long-standing feud. But now, because of a titanic mineral resource trove discovered in an inner sea, the endless entanglements and hostilities of the past mixed together and finally erupted into an all-out war between two Empyrean level influences!

As long as one party could suppress the other they could monopolize the giant resource trove and then expand!

The several main leaders of these two great influences all had Empyrean level cultivations and none of them were able to do anything to the others. In this case, cutting down the subordinate strength of the other party was the most effective method possible. If an Empyrean lost their Heavenly Palace and Holy Lands, and all of their disciples, followers, and descendants were killed off, leaving them all by their lonesome, then could they still be considered an Empyrean level influence? What ability would they have to monopolize an inner sea giant mineral lode that was a million miles wide?

Thus, the war between these two great influences involved all their World Kings, Holy Lords, and even Divine Lord martial artists!

These mid-ranked powerhouses of the Empyrean level influences

battled amongst the inner sea and the countless islands that dotted it, filling the air with the smell of slaughter and blood! As for the small squads, they were all assigned to engage in minor guerilla battles.

Dunepeak's squad was filled with experienced soldiers. All of them knew what combat tactics they should use. As for special items like recovery pills, they were all one-time consumable items. They were to be saved until they absolutely had to be used.

In order to maintain their life-saving cards, they chose battles that were favorable to them and ones where they could launch sneak attacks. But in this world of war and intrigue, how could they avoid being stabbed in the back themselves? At this time, Dunepeak's squad had finally been surrounded by an enemy ambush.

As they saw an old opponent that had almost been extinguished by their squad last time, Dunepeak's complexion became extremely ugly.

"Old friend, it's been a long time since we've seen each other, hahaha!"

A brazen and contemptuous laugh echoed out in the air. A man wearing black armor and with a thick scar on his face stepped forwards. This man had a dragon saber strapped to his back. The dragon saber was the height of a man and a half and left deep imprints in the ground with every step.

Behind this scarred man were also 20 Holy Lord martial artists!

This was a combination of two squads. The other squad was a brother squad of the scar-faced man and together they were twice as strong as Dunepeak's squad in terms of combat strength. If a true life or death battle were to occur here today, then Dunepeak's squad would suffer certain disastrous defeat!

They only had two roads to take. One was to fight with their lives

on the line and risk themselves to cause heavy losses to the enemy.

The second was to scatter in all directions and let the enemy kill half of them without being able to do anything to them at all. As the members of Dunepeak's squad realized this, their complexions became extremely ugly.

"Tyrant Blade, I'm surprised you haven't died yet!" Dunepeak's voice was icy cold.

"Haha, if you haven't died, how could I die? Thanks to you, all of my brothers were killed off last time! Now, I will use your life to pay tribute to their souls. Go, kill them all!"

Tyrant Saber waved his hand and his squad of 20 violently clashed with Dunepeak's squad of 10!

In a life or death slaughter, neither side held back. For a time horrifying waves rose up in the inner sea.

However, Dunepeak's squad had half the members of their enemies. With one person being forced to face two they were quickly suppressed.

In just a short half incense stick of time within this brutal combat, several of Dunepeak's squad members had received heavy wounds!

In terms of their mortal bodies, the spiritas martial artists were far inferior to the saint martial artists. Even if the saint martial artists were injured it wouldn't affect their combat strength too much. But once a spiritas martial artist was wounded, their combat strength would be heavily influenced.

"Ahh!"

With a miserable cry, one of Dunepeak's squad members had his left arm chopped off!

The left arm that shined with the light of a spiritas was flung high in the air, its blood sprinkling down into the choppy waters

below!

“Crimson Cloud!”

Dunepeak watched as one of his own brothers was heavily wounded. It was likely that all ten of them would be buried here today. A deep feeling of despair and anger rose up in his heart.

“Kill kill kill them all! Killing one is enough, killing two is a profit!”

The soldiers were always somewhat bloody. Dunepeak didn't want to be chased around the inner sea like dogs to their death. He led his squad into a life or death battle!

“Haha, beat him to death!”

The two saint soldiers grinned as they rushed towards Crimson Cloud. But, Crimson Cloud himself had already suffered a severe wound and was no longer able to resist.

Dunepeak watched helplessly as all of this unfolded before him. He wasn't able to go out and help because he was facing two captain level characters at the same time, one of them Tyrant Saber!

Saber light flashed. Crimson Cloud thought that his life had was at its end. All he could do now was give everything he had and try to drag down one of them to the grave with him!

He pulled out the two Havoc Flame Symbols he had just obtained yesterday!

This sort of peak fourth grade offensive divine runic symbol was almost equal to Crimson Cloud's all-out strike. Only in a state where both he and the enemy were wounded would this type of divine runic symbol have a miraculous effect. If he used it right at the start of battle then it wouldn't be too useful.

Currently, Crimson Cloud was heavily wounded and could no longer use any techniques. All he could do was throw out these

Havoc Flame Symbols and struggle with his enemies!

Even if he couldn't kill them he could at least wound them.

“Be careful! Those are divine runic symbols!”

The saint martial artists felt their hearts gripped as Crimson Cloud took out two Havoc Flame Symbols.

During the battle between the saints and the spiritas, the saints had suffered the full pain wrought by these divine runic symbols.

Because the saints didn't create divine runic symbols they also didn't have sources for divine runic symbols. Their advantage came from their strong endurance and resilience that allowed for sustained fighting. But when it came to equipment, pills, and divine runic symbols, they were far inferior to the spiritas. Many times, the spiritas had used these divine runic symbols to change the course of a battle.

Thus, they were certainly afraid of these things.

“Defend together!”

The two saint martial artists shouted, revolving their astral essence to the limit to form a barrier. And at this time, the two Havoc Flame Symbols exploded!

The dao patterns of the Asura Heavenly Dao wove together in the skies. Fire energy wildly surged out in all directions. For a time, the entire sky was lit up with a deep crimson light!

The two saint martial artists were pushed back as their astral essence resisted the flaming heat of these Havoc Flame Symbols!

With the two Havoc Flame Symbols used together, their total might was twice that of Crimson Cloud's all out strike. Even though the two saint martial artists had joined together they still felt it difficult to withstand!

“These flames, how can they have a corrosive power? They're corroding away at our astral essence!”

Seeing their protective astral essence melting away like wax in a fire, the complexions of the two saint martial artists changed.

They felt that the flames released by this Havoc Flame Symbol were far beyond ordinary. They carried with them an attribute of destruction!

Ka ka ka!

Their protective astral essence was split apart. The two saint martial artists were overwhelmed with shock. The power of these Havoc Flame Symbols far surpassed the usual; they had already burnt through their protective astral essence.

“Bodily defense!”

The bodies of the saint martial artists were ranked in first amongst all the various races; they were comparable to ancient vicious beasts. Even if their protective astral essence shattered they still had their physical bodies as a second layer of defense.

Energy erupted from their bodies. The bones of the two saint martial artists released explosive crackling sounds! But at this time, the destructive flames were already falling down upon them in a deluge of fire.

Peng!

The flames exploded and black flames burnt through the air. The two saint martial artists screamed in pain as they were sent flying away. Their chests and arms were scorched black, even revealing the bones beneath!

However, the life force of the saint martial artists was far too formidable. Even though they were burnt to such a degree they still maintained a considerable level of combat strength.

“How horrifying!”

The two saint martial artists began to drip with a cold sweat. These wounds could heal in one or two days, and if they used pills

it would be even quicker.

However, they felt a moment of impending doom as those flames scorched them. This was because they had no idea when those dreadful black flames would finally burn out.

Luckily, their astral essence was deeper and managed to hold out until the end of these flames.

“Not a single one died...”

Crimson Cloud mirthlessly smiled. It was already extremely good for a peak fourth grade divine runic symbol to have such an effect.

To depend on two one-time use peak fourth grade divine runic symbols to kill two Holy Lord powerhouses wasn't realistic to begin with. A divine runic symbol could only display its best effects when a battle reached its white-hot phase.

“If only these were fifth grade divine runic symbols...”

Crimson Cloud spat out a mouthful of blood, his face pale. To fight two enemies alone, this step was his limit. He hated himself for being useless and not being able to lighten the burden for his brothers.

Just as he was planning to burn his soul and send out one final strike, an incomprehensible scene occurred in front of Crimson Cloud!

After the flames of the Havoc Flame Symbol disappeared, the mystical dao patterns that spread through the air still didn't vanish. Even the two talisman papers that had the lines of the dao patterns were unharmed.

The Asura dao patterns continued to revolve according to innumerable mysterious rules. Then, beneath the incredulous eyes of Crimson Cloud, the dao patterns fused back together, forming two new Havoc Flame Symbols!

It was like the two Havoc Flame Symbols had never been used

before!

Chapter 1606 – Power of the Flame Symbols

A divine runic symbol was originally a one-time use consumable item. Once it was used up it was gone. No one had ever heard of a divine runic symbol that would not disappear after being used and would instead be restored to its original state!

The two divine runic symbols floated back into Crimson Cloud's hand as if they had a mind of their own. After entering his hand, besides a warm and comfortable feeling that surrounded them, everything was the exact same as before he had used them.

If he didn't watch the inner sea being swept up in a terrifying explosion of flames and didn't see the two saint martial artists being scorched black, Crimson Cloud would really wonder whether or not he had used these Havoc Flame Symbols just now.

“Can these Havoc Flame Symbols actually be used multiple times?”

As soon as this thought flashed through Crimson Cloud's mind he nearly couldn't believe it himself.

Divine runic symbols were one-time use objects just like pills. He had never heard about a pill being eaten, reforming, and then being able to be eaten again. That completely defied all common sense logic!

“This fellow!”

Those two saint martial artists that were burnt by the destructive flames also saw the divine runic symbols used by Crimson Cloud restore themselves to their original appearance after being used.

The saint martial artists were panic-stricken. Just what was going on here? If a divine runic symbol could be used multiple times, was that even allowed!?

Seeing Crimson Cloud hold those two divine runic symbols in hand, the saint martial artists were already deeply afraid. They

didn't dare to attack.

But at this time, another martial artist sneered. "He's just bluffing. If that spirit dog was able to use divine runic symbols multiple times then our Heaven Strife Holy Lands would have been long destroyed by their Extreme Star Holy Lands!"

"That's right! I can't believe I was almost fooled." The two saint martial artists grimaced as they mocked themselves for their stupidity. If this Crimson Cloud fellow really had such fierce divine runic symbols then why would he only use them after one of his arms was cut off? He would have used them at the start!

If so, then the two of them together wouldn't have been able to defeat him.

"Attack together, kill him!"

"This spirit dog, he dares to trick me? I will tear off that dog head of his!"

The two saint martial artists launched their attacks once more. Last time they had defended with everything they had, but now they were attacking with everything they had!

Seeing those two masters hurtle towards him, Crimson Cloud grit his teeth and activated the Havoc Flame Symbols once more!

In a hopeless situation he still had to try everything he could. At this time, his only hope of survival was that these two Havoc Flame Symbols could actually be used multiple times. Otherwise, he was as good as dead!

Pouring his spirit essence into the Havoc Flame Symbols, Crimson Cloud felt as if they had been insatiably hungry, crazily sucking up his spirit essence!

Although Crimson Cloud had lost an arm, the truth was that he hadn't used up too much of his spirit essence. Even after these two Havoc Flame Symbols wildly drew out his spirit essence, he still had over half remaining.

“What is this...”

Crimson Cloud was startled by the Havoc Flame Symbols drawing out so much of his spirit essence. When he had used peak fourth grade divine runic symbols in the past, although he had to pour in his spirit essence, he had never poured in this much!

This sort of feeling was like the two Havoc Flame Symbols in his hand were a bottomless abyss, recklessly sucking out his strength.

Crimson Cloud had no time to respond. At this moment, the two Havoc Flame Symbols flew out, releasing a blazing light in the skies.

The surrounding heaven and earth origin energy began moving like a tsunami, gathering together and condensing into a raging sea of flames in the skies. And in the midst of this sea of flames, the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws wove together with the mysterious dao patterns. Beneath the influence of these dao patterns, the sea of flames gained a horrifying destructive aura, as if they would burn through space!

The two saint martial artists that were rushing forwards were instantly surrounded by this turbulent sea of fire!

“What!?”

No matter what, the two saint martial artists would never have imagined that those two divine runic symbols could be used multiple times. If this Crimson Cloud really had such divine runic symbols then why didn't he use them earlier? Why wait until now!?

They had no time to think. That ghastly sea of black flames contained a terrifying destructive aura. As they were sucked into the center of it, their astral essence quickly consumed itself.

The power when these Havoc Flame Symbols were used again even far surpassed the first time!

Peng!

One saint martial artist's protective astral essence was burnt to nothing! He cried out in alarm as he faced the roiling black flames alone, nearly scared out of his mind.

He had already been severely wounded by the first use of the Havoc Flame Symbol; how could his body endure it a second time?

“How could this happen!”

All across the battlefield, the other martial artists also noticed the situation happening here. Two seas of flames had appeared and their reckless surges of energy were wildly rushing out, colliding with everyone else.

“This is... Havoc Flame Symbols!?”

Dunepeak's squad was stunned. According to traditional concepts, divine runic symbols should only be used at the last moments of a desperate struggle in order to display the best effects. Thus, besides the almost-dead Crimson Cloud, no one had used them.

With a pitiful scream, that saint martial artist whose protective astral essence shattered first was swept up by the black flames! The destructive power within those black flames broke into his body, ravaging through his meridians and recklessly destroying everything!

Those black flames could burn astral essence and were impossibly difficult to suppress!

The saint martial artist frantically struggled but his life vitality was rapidly fading!

“Captain!” Crimson Cloud suddenly shouted out, “Let's use our Havoc Flame Symbols together!”

He didn't know whether or not all the Havoc Flame Symbols could be used multiple times, but this was the only gamble he could make!

If he was right then they could make all their opponents suffer severe wounds without paying too great a price!

Hearing Crimson Cloud's shouts, the other martial artists in Dunepeak's squad were all stunned. At this time, they witnessed something incredible.

The Asura Heavenly Dao Laws that formed the terrifying sea of fire suddenly converged in the air, turning into two new flame symbols that flew into Crimson Cloud's hand.

"What in the world!?" Dunepeak's squad felt this was all too unbelievable. After these Havoc Flame Symbols were used they actually restored themselves to their previous state!

Without further speaking, Dunepeak took out his own two Havoc Flame Symbols. He didn't know whether these two flame symbols could be used more than once but this was his only hope!

All the other martial artists in Dunepeak's squad followed suit, bringing out their Havoc Flame Symbols.

In an instant, the entire sky was lit up with an endless panorama of black flames.

Because of these flames, the vast inner sea seemed to boil with excitement...

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After Lin Ming handed over the Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbols he bought a massive amount of materials and returned to his divine runic arts room to practice.

Lin Ming was only practicing one thing: revising the structure of the divine runic symbols so that they drew even closer to the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws. This would allow their strength to greatly increase or they could even be like the Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbols and obtain an unbelievable special effect.

Only this type of divine runic symbol would sell for a sky-high

price.

The Havoc Flame Symbol that Lin Ming revised was only a peak fourth grade divine runic symbol. Although its effects were heaven-defying, Lin Ming still remained unsatisfied.

Because the grade of the divine runic symbol wasn't too high, only an Empyrean level influence like the Extreme Star Holy Lands that was also at war with another party would purchase them in bulk. Otherwise, selling them off one at a time would be far too slow a method to gather wealth.

Lin Ming's goal was to revise a fifth grade divine runic symbol!

This was a gargantuan project. The revision of a fifth grade divine runic symbol was several times more difficult than that of a fourth grade divine runic symbol!

Even though Lin Ming had some previous experiences, he would still struggle with it.

Lin Ming secluded himself in his divine runic arts room and restarted the days of neglecting to eat and sleep.

A massive amount of materials was placed atop the divine runic table. Jade slips were haphazardly scattered everywhere as he made new calculations and deductions every night.

Making countless calculations all day long was an extremely arduous and tedious process. Luckily, Xiao Moxian would frequently make soul recovery soups and bring them to him, relieving his boredom and making him feel a hint of pleasure and concern.

But, Lin Ming was well aware that the revision of a fifth grade divine runic symbol could not be accomplished in one go like with a fourth grade divine runic symbol. Rather, the process was divided into multiple stages and each stage only represented a part.

What Lin Ming studied now was only the theoretical basis behind it.

If Lin Ming didn't have any inspirations, he would find something else to do.

And of these other things, the most important was to refine a soul recovery pill for Empyrean Divine Mist.

A soul recovery pill that could help an Empyrean would have a grade close to a transcendent divine pill. It would be extremely difficult to refine.

At least, this was with Lin Ming's current level.

Time passed a day at a time. In the blink of an eye, 20 days had passed since Lin Ming handed in his mission.

At the front lines of the Extreme Star Holy Lands, ten Holy Lord level squads were gathered together. The 100 plus people were called here to hold a war assembly.

This sort of war assembly would occur every month. Everyone would freely exchange information. This included information they obtained on enemies, fighting tactics, and new adaptations to make on the battlefield.

At this time, in a corner of the assembly, a tall and majestic man was standing there. This big fellow had a long beard and a pair of large axes hanging on his back. He was currently beaming with joy!

"I'm not exaggerating! You have no idea what the scene was like at the time! There were over 21 opponents and also two late Holy Lords leading them! As for us, we only had 10 people; this was a completely one-sided match! And, those saint demons even laid traps for us. With an order from the captain we engaged them in a brutal struggle for survival. That battle was truly world-shaking, enough to shock gods and alarm ghosts!

The big fellow was speaking so fast and excitedly that his beard was flying up. Then, a strong hand slapped his back and an icy voice sounded out. "Sit down and stop making things up!"

After being yelled at the big bearded fellow wasn't feeling too

good. But as he turned around, he saw the one standing behind him was his captain – Dunepeak.

The bearded fellow immediately shut up. He said, “Captain, I’m just telling the truth... where am I making things up...”

“Good. Then shut up.”

Even though Dunepeak had earned a massive merit he still couldn’t be happy about this war assembly. He knew that he couldn’t conceal his combat report, otherwise that would be a grave and oftentimes fatal offense. But, he still had a single worry. That was... once he gave his report, would the strange Havoc Flame Symbols in their hands be confiscated by the higher powers?

Before this, he had learned through other channels that it was only his squad’s Havoc Flame Symbols that had special effects; the divine runic symbols of the other squads were the same as before and could only be used once.

Chapter 1607 – “Lin”

At this time, a large middle-aged man stepped into the center of the assembly site. This person had thick eyebrows, eyes like a tiger, and an intimidating aura. He was an Empyrean disciple from Extreme Star Heavenly Palace, a Great World King powerhouse – Deep Blue.

These 10 Holy Lord squads were under Deep Blue’s direct jurisdiction and he was also the one presiding over this assembly.

As he stepped into the assembly site, Deep Blue spoke a few opening remarks before looking at Dunepeak. He went straight to the point, “Dunepeak, in your combat report you said that your team achieved a great success. You fell into an ambush of 21 enemies that even had two captain-level characters but instead of being killed you slayed 13 people and forced the remaining eight to flee into the wild. As for your squad, the only price you paid was some wounds?”

Although Deep Blue seemed to have a happy expression, his eyes were like a hawk as he looked over Dunepeak’s squad of 10.

After being praised by Deep Blue in the war assembly, Dunepeak and his squad felt proud of their accomplishments. Indeed, they had truly won a great victory in that battle and had fought with vigor!

However, Dunepeak’s mind was still filled with doubts. 20 Havoc Flame Symbols were given to their squad of 10; would the other 10 be taken back? He clenched his teeth, “Yes!”

“Mm, good, you earned merits, great merits. All of you may receive rewards in accordance with army regulations!” Deep Blue said. The martial artists in Dunepeak’s squad were increasingly excited.

But at this time, Deep Blue changed the conversation. “Then... I

want to know, how did you win?”

Dunepeak’s mind shook. The subject had finally been brought up!

As he expected, when headquarters provided those Havoc Flame symbols they didn’t know about their special effects.

Dunepeak took a deep breath and took out the combat report he had prepared long in advance.

He stepped forwards and bowed, saying, “Lord Deep Blue, I have already prepared the combat report. This combat report may have a considerable influence on the war. But, before Lord Deep Blue takes a look, I have a request to make.”

“Oh? Request?”

“Yes!” Dunepeak had a serious expression. “I request that in any event, Lord Deep Blue does not take back military equipment!”

“Why would I take back your military equipment?” Deep Blue’s eyebrows shot up. He could faintly feel that Dunepeak’s combat report was related to this equipment.

He hesitated for a moment before saying, “As long as it is equipment issued by the military I naturally won’t take it back.”

“Thank you Lord Deep Blue.” Dunepeak said, ecstatic. If Deep Blue guaranteed this under the eyes of so many people present then he wouldn’t renege on his words.

Dunepeak immediately passed over the combat report and began speaking. He could give up the rewards from this merit but he definitely had to keep those 20 Havoc Flame Symbols no matter what. This was a matter that concerned his life and the lives of his brothers!

As Deep Blue listened to the combat report, his expression was calm, then startled, then filled with disbelief. At the end, he rose to his feet, unable to contain his surprise!

His eyes were filled with excitement. He looked at Dunepeak with disbelief. “Havoc Flame Symbols that can be used multiple times? Are you speaking the truth?”

Deep Blue’s voice was filled with potent energy. It spread through the entire war assembly. For a time, the entire assembly site fell into complete silence.

Everyone could clearly hear Deep Blue’s words.

Havoc Flame Symbols that could be used more than once? This kind of divine runic symbol existed in the world?

Divine runic symbols were powerful but their creation costs were astronomical. They could only be used once. A martial artist normally had two or three divine runic symbols to protect themselves and they would only be willing to take them out in critical situations. They were treated like hidden treasures.

If there was a Havoc Flame Symbol that could be used unlimited times, just what sort of scene was that? If there was a squad where each person had a Havoc Flame Symbol, wouldn’t that be a violent and random barrage of explosions? There was no opponent who could withstand that!

This sounded unrealistic, but Dunepeak’s squad had defeated an enemy force twice their size and hadn’t lost a single person. This was the best proof!

As the members of the other squads realized this, their eyes began to burn with heat.

Such a divine tool of the battlefield, they also wanted one!

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Late at night, Divine Runic Masters Guild –

At night, the Mission Division of the Divine Runic Masters Guild would be extremely lonely and desolate. But no matter how lonely it was, Suyu would not leave her position.

For 24 hours a day, whether it was eating, meditating, or occasionally cultivating, Suyu would spend her time here.

In this alone, Suyu was extremely devoted to her work. At any time, anyone could find her if they wished.

Of course, the reason for this was also due to the tremendous pressure on her.

At this time, Suyu was dressed in a loose pink nightdress. She sat behind the counter, taking inventory of the divine runic symbols she had.

In truth, she had taken inventory too many times so it was impossible for her to have made a mistake. But she still did so because it was a habit of hers.

The reason this habit developed was because Suyu was feeling extremely restless in her heart.

Of the time that Extreme Star Heavenly Palace had given her to complete her mission, a quarter had passed.

However, she had only received 9000 fourth grade divine runic symbols and 1500 fifth grade divine runic symbols.

But the mission that headquarters had given her was to gather 80,000 fourth grade divine runic symbols and 10,000 fifth grade divine runic symbols!

The disparity was far too great.

The divine runic masters weren't too enthusiastic about taking on missions.

These people were extremely arrogant to begin with. Besides missions, they also had to cultivate, study, and research.

The soaring cost of materials had unknowingly increased the difficulty for divine runic masters to complete their missions. After all, if a divine runic master failed to draw up a symbol they would have to pay for the materials lost.

If things continued at this speed, Suyu wouldn't even have half the amount of divine runic symbols needed when the deadline for her mission came!

What should she do?

Suyu's advantage lay in her feminine charms.

But, those that prostrated themselves beneath her pink dress were mostly young divine runic masters without much skill. In Suyu's eyes, they were even worse than Lin Ming.

A true higher level divine runic master wasn't necessarily attracted by Suyu's feminine charms and wiles.

In recent days, Suyu had smiled towards these high level divine runic masters every day, trying to arouse their interest; she was beginning to feel a bit exhausted by this work.

Playing with the cup of red wine in her hands, Suyu's heart was not as calm as she revealed on the outside.

"Young Lady, the Heavenly Palace has passed down orders."

At this time, Raindrop approached and took out a golden token with both hands.

"Another Extreme Star Command!" Suyu's heart skipped a beat. Every time she saw an Extreme Star Command, she would have an unlucky foreboding feeling.

With a deep breath, Suyu swept through the contents of the Extreme Star Command with her sense. For a time, she was shocked.

"A divine runic symbol that could be used countless times? There was such a strange divine runic symbol in the ones I delivered?"

Suyu also had some attainments in the divine runic arts, otherwise she wouldn't have been sent here to the Divine Runic Masters Guild. She was well aware that it was an impossible matter for divine runic symbols to be used multiple times.

But, headquarters wouldn't lie about something so important. Perhaps there really was someone who invented a divine runic symbol that could be used many times!

“Who is it?”

The first people Suyu thought of were the peak divine runic grandmasters of the Divine Runic Masters Guild, and even the Guild President, a seventh level divine runic master!

But, none of these people seemed to have taken a mission from the Extreme Star Holy Lands. With their status they wouldn't bother with such things...

“Could it be a peak sixth grade divine runic master?” Suyu immediately thought. There were some sixth grade divine runic masters that had taken on missions.

But as she thought about it more she soon shot down this idea. Within the Extreme Star Command, there was a phantom image of the divine runic symbol which could be used multiple times. Suyu could immediately see that it was a fourth grade divine runic symbol – a Havoc Flame Symbol.

A sixth grade divine runic master wouldn't take on a mission to create Havoc Flame Symbols.

“Havoc Flame Symbol...”

Suyu had a good memory and she could recall that there were people who took on missions to draw up Havoc Flame Symbols these days.

But as she recalled this, she knew there were only five or six people who had taken on missions to draw up Havoc Flame Symbols. Of these people, there wasn't anyone who was capable of accomplishing such an unbelievable matter!

“It shouldn't be him...”

Suyu inexplicably thought of Lin Ming but she immediately

shook her head. She was being too ridiculous here. Just how old was Lin Ming? He was less than a hundred years old and his divine runic master rank was only the third grade if she remembered correctly.

But as Suyu was thinking this, the expression on her face froze.

She subconsciously covered her mouth.

On the phantom image of that Havoc Flame Symbol, there was a clear character carved onto the bottom right corner of the divine runic symbol – ‘Lin’!

“Lin? Could it... really be him!?”

Realizing this possibility, Suyu was completely stunned.

Chapter 1608 – Late Night Suyu

“You would like to look for Lin Ming? Miss Suyu, please wait a moment, I will check for you...”

In the divine runic room rental area, a young receptionist in a long skirt smiled sweetly as she looked up Lin Ming’s room number for Suyu.

“Fifth grade divine runic room, Room #28.”

The young receptionist continued, “It is late at night so Sir Lin is probably resting at this moment. Miss Suyu, do you plan on visiting Sir Lin?”

“Yes.” Suyu nodded.

The young receptionist giggled. Suyu was the most eye-catching beauty in the Divine Runic Masters Guild this year. In the middle of the night she wore such a sensual pink nightdress to enter Lin Ming’s room alone, just what could she be planning?

This sort of meeting would always cause young girls to form interesting associations.

Of course, she naturally couldn’t reveal these ideas.

Seeing the strange glint in the young receptionist’s eyes, Suyu certainly knew what she was thinking. But, she was disinclined to care about such things.

At this time her mind was a mess. She didn’t know whether or not that Havoc Flame Symbol really came from Lin Ming and how she should face him.

In Suyu’s memories, there weren’t many people within the entire Divine Runic Masters Guild who had the surname of Lin. This was because while this name was relatively common within the human race, there were very, very few people of the soul race who had such a name.

If a spiritus divine runic master were to create their own divine runic symbol, there would be no reason for randomly putting the 'Lin' character on a corner of the divine runic symbol.

However, this third grade divine runic master was far too young. How could he possibly produce such a ridiculous divine runic symbol?

All of these thoughts raced through Suyu's mind. Soon, she reached Room #28.

Lin Ming's contribution points were non-existent. This also meant that he couldn't rent a room that required contribution points.

Looking at the tightly sealed stone door, Suyu's mood was extremely complex. She hesitantly reached out a hand and pressed down on the sound transmission array formation.....

.....

At this time, within the divine runic room, materials were scattered chaotically everywhere. There were also many incomplete divine runic symbols.

But above a stone bed in a corner of the room, a beautiful spring scene was taking place.

After delivering the Havoc Flame Symbols and completing his mission, Lin Ming painstakingly researched in this room for a month and finally came up with a way to transform a fifth grade divine runic symbol.

Today, Lin Ming had completed the preliminary theoretical basis and this part of his work had come to an end. Then, he and Xiao Moxian began to dual cultivate Heavenly Extreme Bliss together.

But at this time, Lin Ming heard a sound transmitted from the array formation at the front door; someone was knocking on his door.

“Mm? Who would come looking for me at this time?”

Lin Ming frowned. Normally speaking, when a divine runic master entered their divine runic room they would spend most of their time in deep concentration. It wasn't polite to suddenly bother them.

Moreover, it was late at night so this was even more impolite.

“Who's here?”

Xiao Moxian's face was blushed her. She grabbed her night clothes from a nearby counter and covered her perfectly shaped body. She had come to Lin Ming's room many times and there had never been a visitor before.

“I have no idea.”

Lin Ming stood up, dressed himself, and walked over to open the front door.

With a creaking sound the stone door opened and the alluring figure of a sexy beauty stood on the other side. Lin Ming was stunned for a moment.

“Sir Lin.” Although Suyu felt that this situation was extremely awkward and embarrassing, she still revealed a charming smile. At this time, Suyu wore a light pink nightdress that exposed a blinding amount of snow-white skin. Her plunging neckline was so deep that it exposed the top of her gauzy negligee and one could make out her exquisite thighs and curves. To appear at night with such seductive clothing, most men would feel their blood boiling by now.

“So it's Miss Suyu.”

Lin Ming could approximately guess what Suyu came here for but he didn't reveal any of his thoughts. He simply stood at the entrance and asked with a smile, “What is Miss Suyu here for?”

Sensing Lin Ming's not quite welcoming smile, Suyu thought

little of it. Instead, she cast him a charming look and said in a soft and breathy voice, “Sir Lin, will you not ask me to enter?”

To ask such a question at such a time and place with these clothes and with such an alluring tone, there was no man that would refuse her.

However, Suyu never thought that at this time, a young woman’s voice would echo out in response, “It’s not too convenient for you to come in now.”

Following this voice, a black-clothed young woman walked out from behind Lin Ming, a playful smile hanging on her voice. She said in a whimsical tone, “Oh, isn’t it Miss Suyu? What, why are you here so late? Are you looking for my Lin Ming for some reason?”

Xiao Moxian emphasized the words ‘my Lin Ming’, clearly demonstrating a taste of her power here.

Seeing Xiao Moxian, Suyu’s smile froze. She didn’t think that Xiao Moxian would also be here. Moreover, with the faint blush that was covering Xiao Moxian’s face as well as the light scent coming from the room, Suyu could already guess what was happening inside.

This left Suyu speechless. What sort of coincidence was this?

In ordinary times, with Suyu’s pride, she would have already turned and left upon seeing such a scene. But, today was her unlucky day. With the Extreme Star Command pushing down on her she had to obtain an answer as soon as possible. The fires of war that blazed on the frontlines would not wait for her.

She barely managed to maintain her smiling face as she said, “Oh, isn’t it Miss Xian’er? The last time I saw you I felt that Xian’er’s looks and beauty were astonishing. You truly left a deep impression on me!”

Suyu was overjoyed that she remembered Xiao Moxian’s name

from somewhere, otherwise things would have been even more awkward.

However, Xiao Moxian remained indignant, clearly not falling for Suyu's words. She carelessly said, "I truly admire Miss Suyu's loquacious ability to communicate. For Miss Suyu to say such fake words, it's as if our last meeting had a happy ending. On another note, would it trouble you to not call me Xian'er? I'm not too familiar with you and hearing you call me that is quite disgusting for me, and embarrassing for you."

As Xiao Moxian spoke, she looked down to stare at the proud twin peaks that were exposed through Suyu's flimsy garments. She chuckled and said, "I've already heard rumors that many young divine runic masters in the Divine Runic Masters Guild were enthralled by Miss Suyu to the point of being crazed idiots, but now that I see it for myself it seems that these rumors weren't an exaggeration. For you to come to a man's room alone in the middle of the night and with such an appearance, do you think this is appropriate?"

Hearing Xiao Moxian's cynical mocking, Suyu was nearly angered to death. Just what sort of character was Suyu? She had been revered for so many years and yet today she was being taunted by some young girl and her only choice was to respond with a smile.

"It seems that Miss Xian'er had some misunderstandings about me. If there was any place where I offended you before, then I, Suyu, respectfully apologize to Miss Xian'er for any mistakes I made in the past."

Suyu had already made a full gesture of defeat and Xiao Moxian had no intention of beating up someone that had already fallen to the ground. She smirked and said, "What matters do you have with my Lin Ming tonight?"

The truth was that Xiao Moxian also approximately guessed what was happening. She certainly didn't believe that Suyu came in the

middle of the night to have some sexual rendezvous with Lin Ming, but knew it was because of those Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbols. It would be impossible for this Suyu woman to seduce Lin Ming tonight, especially with her here.

“It’s a good thing I was here tonight, otherwise only the heavens would know what this succubus would have done.” Xiao Moxian thought, her lips curving up in a pleased smile.

Seeing the two women quarrelling, Lin Ming awkwardly coughed and said, “Miss Suyu, please come in and take a seat.”

Although Lin Ming didn’t have any good impression towards this overly proud and arrogant woman, he still needed to go through her to earn contribution points.

Lin Ming’s words finally resolved Suyu’s problem.

Suyu looked at Lin Ming with gratefulness and then entered the room.

Lin Ming’s room was extremely messy. There were materials piled up and scattered all over with symbol papers thrown about. There was also a large pile of jade slips used for calculations and deductions.

The clean and orderly Xiao Moxian originally couldn’t stand this chaotic mess. However, she tried not to move these scattered things unless absolutely necessary so she didn’t affect Lin Ming’s research.

To invite a guest into such a messy room was extremely disgraceful to begin with. If a beautiful woman were to come in, she would likely frown and possibly leave.

However, as Suyu saw this cluttered room and the messy divine runic table, her eyes brightened with a dazzling light!

She was also a divine runic master so she knew what the mess on the divine runic table meant. All of those failed symbol papers and haphazardly placed jade slips meant that Lin Ming was researching

something!

When a divine runic master did research they would often consume a massive amount of materials. As for the deductions, they would be written on jade slips. Looking at the divine runic table, there were at least 50-60 jade slips piled atop it.

These specialized jade slips had an enormous storing capacity. If a massive mortal encyclopedia was stored into a single jade slip it wouldn't even account for the tip of an iceberg.

Suya found it hard to imagine just how many calculations and deductions Lin Ming had made in these past days. Could the improvements of the Havoc Flame Symbol have been done by Lin Ming alone?

“Sir Lin is truly hardworking... no wonder you would have such proud results at such a young age.” Suya smiled as she looked at the divine runic symbols and jade slips on the divine runic table. The more she looked, the more startled she was. The failed divine runic symbols were all fifth grade divine runic symbols! Just what was Lin Ming doing? Could he actually be thinking of improving a fifth grade divine runic symbol? Had he gone mad?

These thoughts instantly flashed through Suya's mind, making her even more startled. She felt she had to completely reassess the value of this young man before her.

“Miss Suyu, please speak openly if you have any matters to discuss.” Lin Ming said, going straight to the point.

“Alright, then I won't beat around the bush. Sir Lin, I want to ask you, did the 20 Havoc Flame Symbols you turned in for your mission have Sir Lin's surname inscribed onto the bottom right corner?”

As Suyu asked, although her expression was tranquil her breathing was heavy.

Suya's question was well within Lin Ming's anticipation. He

indifferently nodded and said, “That’s right. Did the Extreme Star Holy Lands use those divine runic symbols well?”

Although Suyu already had some guesses in her heart, she still held her breath upon hearing Lin Ming’s answer. She felt her heartbeat quicken. Yes, it was really him!

To revise the Havoc Flame Symbol that had been inherited for so many years to such a degree, how had he done it!?

“Yes, they did...”

As Suyu spoke, stormy waves were set off in her heart. It wasn’t just her, but even the entire army was in uproar. There were countless squads that were clamoring to obtain a single one of these divine runic symbols!

Chapter 1609 – Cooperation

Lin Ming wasn't surprised by Suyu's sudden change in expression.

He flicked his hand and took out the Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol that he had placed in his spatial ring.

At the time, Lin Ming had created 21 flame symbols and delivered 20 of them.

“Are you speaking of this?”

Lin Ming placed the flame symbol on the divine runic table. Just saying that he was the creator of those divine runic symbols wouldn't be enough to win trust; taking out evidence would be more persuasive.

Seeing this divine runic symbol, Suyu's eyes lit up. This was it!

This Havoc Flame Symbol seemed like it was no different from ordinary Havoc Flame Symbols, but it had the terrifying property of being able to be used multiple times. With that property, it became a divine tool for the battlefield!

If a small squad of 10 people was provided with a Havoc Flame Symbol, just what sort of battles would be possible?

With a massive fiery bombardment at the start, the opponent would definitely be left miserable by the opening salvo. Then, they would be encircled and barraged with martial skills and flame symbols; just who could live through that?

Suyu took the Havoc Flame Symbol and touched a slender finger to the bottom right corner where the 'Lin' character was located.

The sharp strokes of the character were like swords, startling Suyu.

These strokes were exactly the same!

She looked up, staring at Lin Ming. A strange feeling percolated

in her heart.

Just what kind of man was this?

When Lin Ming had first accepted the mission to draw up the Havoc Flame Symbols, Suyu thought that he was only pretending to be able to do so in order to attract her attention. She never would have dreamed that not only would Lin Ming complete the mission but he would also improve the Havoc Flame Symbol!

She wasn't sure if Lin Ming had made these improvements himself, but she didn't have to be a genius to know that after improving the Havoc Flame Symbol, the difficulty would be far higher. Even so, he had still managed to complete them!

"He's likely less than 100 years old..." Suyu felt all of this to be too incomprehensible. Lin Ming was too abnormal. Let alone a junior that was less than 100 years old, even the higher level divine runic masters would be unable to accomplish something so heaven-defying.

In the quiet divine runic room, Lin Ming sat behind the divine runic table, holding absolute initiative.

And facing this Lin Ming that could be called a little brother from a younger generation, Suyu had no idea what to say.

"He already expected I would come here to look for him!" Suyu immediately thought. As she saw Lin Ming having no intention to speak at all, she finally began to become aware of what he was thinking. Did he want her to speak first? In these types of negotiations, the first to speak would be the one to lose the initiative.

However, against Lin Ming who had such skills, what advantage did Suyu have?

Strength was momentum!

Suyu had no way to maintain her previous pride and confidence. To Lin Ming, she could only reveal a flattering smile. She said, "Sir

Lin, was that batch of divine runic symbols created by you?”

“Yes.” Lin Ming had nothing to hide and this matter couldn’t be concealed anyways.

So it was true...

Suya wasn’t surprised. She immediately began to consider how to offer conditions to have Lin Ming cooperate with her. But as she thought about her haughty manner the last time she saw Lin Ming as well as the dispute she had with Xiao Moxian, Suyu really wanted to kick a wall.

She had simply cursed herself to death, otherwise why would she need to be so humble and submissive today?

“These changes were also completed by Sir Lin alone?” Suyu asked.

“The changes were made by me. The reason I was able to do so is because the inheritance I study is special.”

Inheritance?

Suya’s heart skipped a beat. According to Elder Xue, it seemed that Lin Ming had an extremely powerful master.

What was this inheritance that it could cause such abnormal transformation?

Even a seventh grade divine runic master was absolutely unable to accomplish this.

Suya felt her mood become increasingly unsteady. This Lin Ming was an extraordinary treasure! Whether it was for the Extreme Star Holy Lands or the Divine Runic Masters Guild, it was the same!

She couldn’t help but ask, “I do not know who Sir Lin’s honorable master is...”

Lin Ming frowned upon hearing this. His voice became much colder as he said, “Miss Suyu should also know that every divine

runic master has their own inheritance, and the core techniques are something that the master might not even pass down to their apprentice. Is Miss Suyu asking this question because you intend to make a secret attack on my inheritances?”

Lin Ming immediately buckled down, causing Suyu to stumble. She said, “I apologize Sir Lin, I was rude. The reason I am here today is to represent headquarters, which wishes to discuss cooperation with Sir Lin...”

Suyu paid careful attention to Lin Ming’s expressions. Speaking with Lin Ming, Suyu was being extremely careful. After all, because of her arrogance the last time she spoke with Lin Ming, it would be hard to get along well with him quickly.

Seeing Lin Ming not intending to respond, Suyu continued to ask. “Sir Lin, may I ask you how many times the Havoc Flame Symbols you created can be used?”

The truth was that when Suyu received the Extreme Star Command, Extreme Star Heavenly Palace had already done some experiments on their own. Suyu only needed to obtain Lin Ming’s confirmation as to whether or not every divine runic symbol could reach the same standard.

“They can probably be used several hundred times. After being used too many times the divine rune structure will slowly collapse and be destroyed.

“And in a single battle, this type of divine runic symbol can be activated four times at most. Moreover, the last three times need the martial artist to pour in a certain amount of energy. After using the divine runic symbol four times the energy within will be exhausted and unable to activate. The divine runic symbol has to charge itself for a period of time before it can be used again.”

When Lin Ming created the Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol, because he had used nirvanic fire and heavenly tribulation fire, this caused the flame energy to be too high. When combined with

the many modifications of the Asura Heavenly Dao that Lin Ming had added on, this made the Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol extremely powerful, to the point that it could kill a peak Holy Lord.

But at the same time, the Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol placed high requirements on the user. According to Lin Ming's estimates, one needed to be a peak Holy Lord to draw out its full strength.

Thus, Lin Ming also made another modification. Using his understanding of the Asura Heavenly Dao, he made it so that the Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol released its energy in bursts, greatly extending the lifetime use of the Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol as well as reducing the requirements for the user.

Lin Ming's data was all similar to the data that Extreme Star Heavenly Palace themselves had gained through testing.

This sort of Havoc Flame Symbol had been given the price of 400,000 points for a single one. This was also the ideal price that Extreme Star Heavenly Palace wished for.

And in fact, when Extreme Star Heavenly Palace issued a mission they would request 20 symbols. In other words, Extreme Star Heavenly Palace would have to pay Lin Ming 8 million points every time.

Suya hesitated and said, "Sir Lin, the Extreme Star Holy Lands would like one batch of these improved Havoc Flame Symbols. No matter how many we will take that many and we will also pay you sufficient rewards."

"Oh?" Lin Ming traced his chin. He had already expected this type of mission commission. Currently, the Extreme Star Holy Lands lacked offensive and defensive divine runic symbols. As for pills, they were less pressured for those.

"Before we speak about this commission, what about the

previous account?”

Lin Ming had a smile on his face. But, his words left Suyu stunned.

The previous account...

That’s right, Lin Ming was still owed for the 20 Havoc Flame Symbols he handed over last time!

Suyu had wanted to pay 60,000 contribution points but Lin Ming didn’t want that at all. He said that he didn’t ‘lack contribution points’.

It was only now that Suyu realized why Lin Ming didn’t need contribution points. He thought that 60,000 points was too little and was waiting for this development to occur so he could demand a higher reward!

Suyu also remembered that Lin Ming had said that perhaps after a month, his total amount of points would reach a considerable number.

Lin Ming had already expected that today’s events would occur.

This left Suyu slightly frustrated. She felt that she had been completely crushed by this little brother.

“I must say Miss Suyu...” Xiao Moxian looked at Suyu, faintly smiling. “I remember that someone said last time that they would never have any intention to look for Lin Ming to create divine runic symbols... right?”

A month ago, Lin Ming had predicted that there would be people scrambling to ask him to draw up divine runic symbols.

But Suyu had rudely and needlessly added in, “I have no idea who will be scrambling for you to make divine runic symbols for you in the future, but I don’t have any intention of doing so...”

Now that Xiao Moxian mentioned this, Suyu was left helpless.

“Miss Xian’er, about last time, I really must apologize...”

Under the roof of others, one had no choice but to lower their hands. Suyu lowered her posture once more. “But today I believe I have put forth sufficient sincerity. Sir Lin, what do you think of... 250,000 contribution points?”

Suyu used pleading eyes to look at Lin Ming. Her eyes were like autumn pools of water, able to stir one’s emotions.

She put the initial price at 150,000 contribution points below what headquarters’ limit had been. This was to keep a bargaining space.

Before Lin Ming could speak, Xiao Moxian said, “250,000 points? Your plan is quite well thought out. The divine runic symbols that Lin Ming draws up can be used 200-300 times. According to the initial price of 60,000 for 20, every one should be worth 3000. Then, if you multiply that by 250 times it should be 750,000 for a single one!

“Then again, the improved Havoc Flame Symbols that Lin Ming creates are even stronger than ordinary flame symbols. Perhaps we don’t even want this pitiful amount of money!”

Xiao Moxian forcefully said.

Suyu froze. “750,000...”

According to such a price, if Lin Ming handed over 1000 divine runic symbols then they would have to pay 750,000,000 contribution points. If this continued then Extreme Star Heavenly Palace definitely wouldn’t be able to withstand it. After all, they had already consumed a massive amount of resources in this war.

Although Lin Ming’s Havoc Flame Symbols could be used 200-300 times and were even stronger than ordinary versions, Extreme Star Heavenly Palace still hoped they could obtain a lower price if they bought in bulk. After all, although this improved Havoc Flame Symbol had higher techniques behind it, the cost of creating one wasn’t necessarily much higher.

“Sir Lin...” Suya knew that quarrelling with Xiao Moxian was meaningless. She used begging eyes to look at Lin Ming. “The cost of materials will all be taken on by our Extreme Star Holy Lands...”

Lin Ming’s expression was indifferent. Suya’s starting price didn’t affect him at all.

250,000 for one divine runic symbol, that meant he would need to draw up 12,000 of them to obtain 3 billion points. How long would it take to draw up 12,000 divine runic symbols? It would likely be two or three years.

Lin Ming faintly said, “Miss Suya, the truth is that you seem to have made a mistake. My divine runic symbols don’t need to be sold to you alone. Do you think that besides your Extreme Star Holy Lands, no one else is willing to pay a higher price?”

Chapter 1610 – Grandmaster Overflow

Suya was shocked by Lin Ming's words. Indeed, as Lin Ming said, if the Extreme Star Holy Lands wanted to buy those improved Havoc Flame Symbols they could only do so from Lin Ming, but Lin Ming didn't necessarily need to sell to them.

This sort of improved Havoc Flame Symbol could be used 200-300 times and in a battle could be activated four times. This was a heaven-defying special effect. There were many Holy Lord powerhouses that would be willing to buy such a Havoc Flame Symbol in order to serve as their final trump card.

If an early Holy Lord martial artist had this sort of flame symbol, although they might not be able to defeat a middle Holy Lord realm martial artist, it still wouldn't be a problem to protect themselves.

If they had to go to a life or death mystic realm to adventure and even desperately bet their lives against those other people there, they would absolutely want to buy one or two of these Havoc Flame Symbols no matter what the cost was.

In addition, these revised Havoc Flame Symbols had the special attribute of being able to be used multiple times; this was an almost completely unique attribute. There were many divine runic masters that loved to collect all sorts of divine runic symbols who would love to get their hands on one. Moreover, there were many wealthy juniors of powerful influences that would similarly love to possess such a rare divine runic symbol as a point of pride.

This was a symbol of status.

Thus, even if Lin Ming publicly sold these divine runic symbols, their price would still rapidly reach a horrifying level. Their price might even surpass the accumulated total of 200-300 Havoc Flame Symbols!

Thinking of this, Suyu knew that perhaps there might not be any transactions.

The price that the Extreme Star Holy Lands offered simply wouldn't be enough.

She stood up and despairingly said, "Sir Lin, Miss Xian'er, I apologize for disturbing you today. I will go back first. Sir Lin, I will come to visit you again in the future."

Suyu could be called miserable. Her overly large eyes seemed to contain tens of thousands of words, all of them touching.

Even Lin Ming, who was used to seeing beautiful women, couldn't help but acknowledge that Suyu was an extraordinary woman.

Suyu and Xiao Moxian possessed two different types of figures. Suyu had explosive curves, perfectly round and soft. Although she was a shocking beauty like Xiao Moxian, she possessed a flavor that ordinary women did not have. She constantly attracted the gaze and heat of men, even with the slightest movement.

Like this, Suyu walked away. From beginning to end, she possessed a feminine beauty, one that was gentle and meek. She seemed completely different from the proud figure that was resting on the couch just a month ago.

"Big Brother Lin, it seems like you turned her down." Xiao Moxian said after Suyu left.

"No need to worry, I have too many concerns right now. I have to research how to transform a fifth grade divine runic symbol and I also have to refine a soul recovery pill for Senior Divine Mist. I don't have much free time. If I have to draw up Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbols I'll have to create dozens of them. When something is rare, it becomes far more precious. If I were to sell them at a cheap price then these Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbols won't be valuable at all."

Lin Ming said. He had already considered this. When a new product came out, no one would know its true price. The true price was artificially created by others.

If he sold a small number of Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbols, then those who bought them would scurry to hype up the price as much as possible so they would have more value.

Once the price was higher, they might resell them.

As for the next person, they would also have a similar idea. As this process continued, the price would become increasingly high until it even exceeded the original value.

Lin Ming would be happy to see such a scene occur.

.....

Still night, Suyu returned to her own room and opened a long distance sound transmission array, attempting to send a message to the Internal Affairs Envoy of Extreme Star Heavenly Palace – Sage Brightyang.

Suyu relayed all of her experiences from today. As Sage Brightyang heard this, he frowned.

“This junior called Lin Ming wants 750,000 contribution points for one? He is insatiably greedy!”

Sage Brightyang’s face darkened. After a period of thought he sneered and responded, “There is no need for you to concern yourself with this matter. That brat probably thinks that we can’t live without him. What a naïve child! Since he’s so greedy then I won’t let him obtain even one point.”

As Sage Brightyang replied, Suyu’s heart skipped a beat. It couldn’t be that Extreme Star Heavenly Palace wanted to do something to Lin Ming, right!?

Lin Ming was living within the Divine Runic Masters Guild and had an extremely sensitive status to begin with. If Extreme Star

Heavenly Palace attacked a member of the Divine Runic Masters Guild without provocation then they would inevitably suffer backlash from Divine Rune City!

This might even cause their alliance to fall apart and both sides to become enemies.

After all, kidnapping a divine runic master and forcing them to refine divine runic symbols was the absolute most taboo action for all divine runic masters. It was something that all of them loathed, no matter who they were.

Moreover, there was said to be a peak Empyrean master behind Lin Ming!

If they were to offend a peak Empyrean level character for a mere improved Havoc Flame Symbol, then that would absolutely be saving a little to lose a lot. The foolishness of that decision would be unbelievable. There wouldn't even be a need for the Extreme Star Holy Lands to continue their war. With a peak Empyrean joining the enemy side, their loss would be ensured.

Suya didn't feel that Extreme Star Heavenly Palace would do something so reckless. But, she was still worried that Extreme Star Heavenly Palace didn't know about Lin Ming's background.

She soon obtained an answer. Sage Brightyang's tone was extremely gloomy. "We naturally won't do anything to cause enmity with the Divine Runic Masters Guild. But, this doesn't mean that we don't have any means to deal with this boy. We've already invited Grandmaster Overflow..."

Grandmaster Overflow?

Suya was stunned. She had heard this name before.

In the world of divine runic masters, most divine runic masters were extremely proud and famous, respectable characters that were honored by others.

But, there were divine runic masters that lived in the dark. These

divine runic masters did not research the divine runic arts but instead plagiarized the results and accomplishments of others.

If someone were to develop an astonishingly valuable divine runic symbol, there would naturally be evil individuals that attempted to appropriate these techniques for themselves. After all, these divine runic symbols involved a massive amount of benefits!

Generally speaking, when a divine runic master drew up a divine runic master they would have measures to prevent them from being cracked. Moreover, divine runic symbols involved numerous tiny complex runes and structures as well as a fusion between the divine runic symbol itself and the Heavenly Dao Laws and different fluctuations of weak and strong energy flows. Wanting to recreate a forgery was nearly impossible.

But, there was one type of divine runic master that specialized in this field.

Just like in the mortal world where there were thieves who specialized in picking locks; they were able to open any of them.

These types of divine runic masters were loathed by all others. There was no divine runic master that wanted the things they carefully researched to be stolen by others.

However, when driven by tremendous benefits, there were a number of divine runic masters that would rather become one of the people that lived in the dark.

These people had their own inheritances.

Of course, these inheritances were especially focused on how to unravel the divine runic symbols of others.

And this Grandmaster Overflow was a grandmaster level character amongst all dark divine runic masters!

According to what Suyu knew, Grandmaster Overflow was a peak sixth grade divine runic master! If he had chosen to focus his

efforts on the orthodox path then he would have obtained great results.

But as someone of the dark path, Grandmaster Overflow was known as a person who could open any lock. The only problems to him were time and cost.

Although many divine runic masters had their own ultimate final technique, Grandmaster Overflow didn't have a liking for these. After all, in order to crack open the secrets of a divine runic symbol one needed to consume a massive amount of rare and precious materials as well as a variety of costly array formations. The total cost could leave one dumbfounded.

“Unravel... if we can really unravel the secrets to this improved Havoc Flame Symbol, then the advantages to our Extreme Star Holy Lands will be tremendous!” Suya thought. She didn't know why, but she felt something strange in her heart. In her short moment of contact with Lin Ming just now, she didn't know why but that youth had become unfathomably deep and unpredictable.

Would Grandmaster Overflow be able to unravel Lin Ming's divine runic symbol?

Suya knew that with things having reached this point there was nothing she could do. She could only calmly wait in her area of the Mission Division and do her own job...

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Two days later, Extreme Star Holy Lands...

The Extreme Star Holy Lands was located above the Asura Road's Miluo Star Ocean. This Star Ocean had countless massive 100,000 mile wide islands that floated above it, and although they were called islands, the truth was that they weren't much smaller than continents of some planets.

Above these islands was an endlessly dark night. In the skies, there was always an endless ocean of stars that floated across the

world.

Underneath this endless starlight, there was a deep blue palace floating high in the sky. This was Extreme Star Heavenly Palace!

This was the supreme command center of the Extreme Star Holy Lands as well as the residence of the Extreme Star Holy Lands' two Emphyreans!

And on this day, the gates of Extreme Star Heavenly Palace opened. As the Internal Affairs Envoy of Extreme Star Heavenly Palace, Sage Brightyang personally waited at the entrance of the Heavenly Palace to greet Grandmaster Overflow!

Grandmaster Overflow was a Great World King to begin with, and through these years, the wealth he accumulated was unimaginable. Although he was a cruel and infamous individual known for his spite, he still provoked fear and awe in many people!

This was the suppressive fear brought by strength!

Chapter 1611 – Test

“You actually managed to have Grandmaster Overflow come and help?” A World King said from beside Sage Brightyang. This World King was Waking Cloud, a direct disciple of one of Extreme Star Heavenly Palace’s two Empyreans.

“Requesting Overflow to help will definitely come with a great price...” Someone added in after Waking Cloud.

Sage Brightyang said, “To this type of divine runic symbol, Grandmaster Overflow will definitely have a great interest. And after he unravels the secrets to creating one, we will definitely have to pay a great price. However, for the techniques behind this sort of divine runic symbol, it is absolutely worth it...”

As Sage Brightyang was speaking, a melodious immortal song echoed through the air. A magnificent divine carriage decked in gold and jade shot through the horizon, dragging a brilliant rainbow behind it.

This divine carriage was hundreds of feet wide and was several times larger than an ordinary pavilion. It was pulled by 18 dignified ancient great beasts, slowly flying forwards. In front of the divine carriage was a squad of golden-armored warriors leading the way, each one carrying spirit artifacts. And behind the divine carriage were enchanting maids with high martial talents and cultivations, all of them holding various musical instruments. As they flew forwards, music filled the air. At the vanguard of the procession was a spirit boat filled with pretty maids that sprinkled down flower petals, like a cascading river of color fading into the deep!

And these flower petals were not ordinary flower petals. Rather, they were considerably expensive spirit flower petals. Just scattering these flower petals was an extremely great wealth!

From this alone, one could see how wealthy and opulent the

master of the divine carriage was!

The divine carriage came to a steady stop before Extreme Star Heavenly Palace. Four beautiful maids moved forwards and parted the curtains of the divine carriage. Then, an old man in an opulent yellow robe stepped out.

This old man had unsightly features but his eyes were razor sharp. He held two young concubines to his chest. Without a doubt, this was Grandmaster Overflow!

“This kind of parade...” Waking Cloud was left flabbergasted. Just the flower petals alone cost innumerable origin energy runes. Even an Empyrean travelling outside wasn’t too different.

“Grandmaster Overflow!” Sage Brightyang hurriedly moved forwards to greet him.

But Overflow only slightly nodded back and released the two concubines from his arms. He lightly said, “My time is valuable. There is no need for any pleasantries.”

“Good!” Sage Brightyang said, leading Overflow to the best divine runic room in the entire Extreme Star Heavenly Palace.

As for Overflow’s guards, maids and concubines, all of them were treated well and asked to wait outside the palace.

Extreme Star Heavenly Palace’s divine runic room was several miles wide. This giant square was so large because there were all sorts of expensive arrays set up as well as a top grade divine runic table that seemed like an altar.

Above this divine runic table, the runes of multiple array formations shined.

After glancing through this facility, Overflow was fairly satisfied.

“Who created that divine runic symbol?” Overflow asked, getting straight to the point.

Sage Brightyang hesitated for a moment. “A third grade divine

runic master.”

Seeing Overflow frown as if he were about to be angry, Sage Brightyang quickly explained, “His divine runic arts level is likely above the third grade, and the current rune structure of the symbol might not have been invented by him either.”

Overflow coldly coughed. If this was really the work of a mere third grade divine runic master, then asking him to unravel it was simply an insult.

He coldly said, “I hope it is a valuable divine runic symbol. I travelled several hundred million miles to come here and I’d better not be disappointed. Where is the divine runic symbol?”

Sage Brightyang immediately took out the Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol that Lin Ming had created. From appearances, this divine runic symbol didn’t seem any different from an ordinary Havoc Flame Symbol.

Seeing this fourth grade divine runic symbol, Overflow didn’t seem to have any interest. But as he swept his sense through the structure of the divine runic symbol, a brilliant light shined in his eyes.

“Eh, this is quite interesting!”

Overflow was clearly excited. Sage Brightyang was ecstatic. If this could arouse Grandmaster Overflow’s interest then he would likely treat this not as a mission but as a personal endeavor. He would assuredly put forth 120% of his effort.

“Are there the array formations I want?”

“Yes!” Sage Brightyang immediately ordered people to start the array formations in this room. These array formations had long been arranged in advance, and all of them were to support one in the divine runic arts. The cost of construction for each one was astronomical. If the cost was exchanged for contribution points of the Divine Runic Masters Guild then every array formation would

be worth at least 10 million points.

Although Extreme Star Heavenly Palace was considerably wealthy, they only arranged these array formations in a single divine runic room.

Sage Brightyang embarrassedly said, “We only have conventional array formations; we don’t have specialized unraveling array formations. I must ask Grandmaster Overflow for help in setting them up.”

Overflow laughed and proudly said, “This is natural. These unraveling array formations are all a specialty of my career; you naturally wouldn’t know of them.”

These dark divine runic masters made their living by plagiarizing and stealing the work of others. But, when it came to their own techniques and inheritances, they would keep them hidden watertight, never revealing their secrets to others.

If anyone wanted to steal their techniques, they would go all-out against them.

Grandmaster Overflow took out a dozen plus array discs from his spatial ring and placed them on the massive divine runic table.

Overflow was extremely careful in his actions. Each array disc was crafted from materials worth tens of millions of points. Moreover, the array discs also involved a variety of secret techniques. These array discs could be called Overflow’s specialty treasures.

After Overflow spread out all the array discs, Sage Brightyang and the others drew back and used crystal balls to observe what was happening. They didn’t want to disturb Grandmaster Overflow.

“He’s so professional.” Someone praised from behind Sage Brightyang.

“That’s right, the professionalism is completely different. Just

those array discs that the Grandmaster took out are more expensive than the entire seventh grade divine runic room we prepared!”

“Lord Internal Affairs Envoy’s move is quite wonderful. As long as we succeed then we’ll have saved a tremendous expense for Extreme Star Heavenly Palace and we’ll also have gained a top divine runic symbol technology. With this amazing battlefield weapon in our hands, no one will dare to move against our Extreme Star Heavenly Palace!”

Listening to this person, Sage Brightyang faintly smiled. He said, “Just who is this and just what is he doing? Grandmaster Overflow is a peak dark divine runic master. With him helping us, our plan of copying that technology is almost assured success. We only need to wait for the good news. I estimate that he should finish in around 10 days.”

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As Extreme Star Heavenly Palace launched their offensive to copy Lin Ming’s divine runic symbol, it was finally becoming known by others that these improved Havoc Flame Symbols made by Lin Ming were able to be used multiple times. Moreover, it was also learned that the true name of these divine runic symbols was actually Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol.

However, these were merely rumors spread from the frontlines and there was no way to measure the veracity of these claims. As for one of the few insiders, Suyu definitely wouldn’t spread such news for Lin Ming.

The members of the Divine Runic Masters Guild were all highly accomplished in the divine runic arts. They all knew how difficult it was to create a divine runic symbol that could be used multiple times.

Their knowledge and experience made them doubt such an unbelievable matter.

All of this led to the scene today. A group of divine runic masters waited in a test room of the Divine Runic Masters Guild. They surrounded an illusory magic array, waiting to see the destructive might of this Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol.

Seeing was believing! Through this array formation test, they could confirm the truth.

Lin Ming was also in this test room. He held a Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol in his hand, the one that he had created a month ago.

“Lin Ming, you brat, you’re always up to some tricks.”

Old Xue had arrived with his good friend Old Su. The two of them had also heard the rumors, and although they felt it was a bit incredible, since it concerned Lin Ming they already half believed it subconsciously.

Old Su traced his chin. He couldn’t help but ask, “I heard that your Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol could be used multiple times? How many times is that?”

Old Su cared most about the number of times that the divine runic symbol could be used.

Lin Ming faintly smiled, “You’ll find out after the test...”

Lin Ming didn’t waste his time with idle chatting. After several dozen people finally gathered in the room, he walked into the center of the array formation and activated it.

At this time, Lin Ming saw Suya.

Today’s Suya was dressed much more conservatively. She wore a windproof coat with a high collar. Even so, her explosive figure still struggled to escape the confines of her clothing.

Suya faintly smiled as she saw Lin Ming glance at her. She knew that Lin Ming planned to establish the reputation of the Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol and then sell it for a high price.

Today's array formation test would pave the way for that high price.

Chapter 1612 – Copy

After the testing array formation activated, dozens of ancient vicious beast simulations conjured up by the illusory magic array appeared. These vicious beasts surrounded Lin Ming, their strengths ranging from the Divine Transformation realm to the World King realm!

These were merely living targets. Although they had defensive capabilities similar to real vicious beasts, they were not aggressive at all.

Facing these ancient vicious beasts, Lin Ming calmly activated the Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol.

For a time, dao patterns of the Asura Heavenly Dao wove in the air. With a terrifying explosion, flames swept out like a tide.

Dozens of ancient vicious beasts were swallowed up by the flames. Over 90% of the vicious beasts were instantly reduced to ash with only several of them surviving the carnage.

Of the surviving vicious beasts, some were severely burnt. But, there were also several vicious beasts equal to the human late Holy Lord realm or peak Holy Lord realm, and even a World King level vicious beast that wasn't injured at all.

In particular, that World King level armored forest dragon still stood tall and proud in the skies, its scales not damaged even the slightest bit.

Seeing this destructive power, Old Xue didn't even need to look at the data; he immediately judged the strength of the Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol in Lin Ming's hands. "This is... a Holy Lord level two star destructive power. It's slightly better than an excellently crafted Havoc Flame Symbol, about a star higher."

"It's quite good." Old Su nodded.

Before anyone else could make their judgments, with Lin Ming's

right hand as the center, the numerous dao patterns of the Asura Heavenly Dao rapidly condensed, manifesting back into a new Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol in the blink of an eye!

Lin Ming didn't pause; brilliant flames erupted once more.

Another explosive sound occurred!

Beside Lin Ming, a terrifying detonation blew up once more!

Lin Ming had activated the Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol a second time!

All of the several remaining ancient vicious beasts were sucked up into the flames. Sorrowful howls filled the air.

The late Holy Lord and peak Holy Lord level vicious beasts were charred black by the flames.

"The second time came so fast!"

Although the people present had heard that the Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol could be used continuously, they never imagined that the gap between uses would be so short.

But this was only the start. Following this, the Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol within Lin Ming's hand exploded for a third time!

As the creator of the Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol, Lin Ming was the person most familiar with the runic structure within it. Combined with his understanding of the Asura Heavenly Dao as well as his achievements in the seventh level Concept of the Fire Laws, using the Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol came as easily as breathing!

Normally, a martial artist could use the Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol four times before the energy within it exhausted itself. Then, the Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol would need time to recover energy for its next use.

But Lin Ming simply didn't need to do this.

As Lin Ming used the Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol, he continued to fill it with new energy!

The flames used to create the Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol were Lin Ming's tribulation fire and Xiao Moxian's nirvanic fire.

Currently, Lin Ming had these two types of flames.

Thus, within Lin Ming's hand, the power displayed by this Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol had an essential difference compared to when it was placed in someone else's hands.

Bang! Bang! Bang!

Within the array formation, a terrifying explosion lit up the world every two breaths of time!

That dreadful sea of flames swept through the entire array formation. If it weren't for the protection of that array formation, the entire testing room would have been ruined by the terrifying explosions!

Lin Ming activated the Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol again and again.

Although this flame symbol was constantly absorbing Lin Ming's energy, Lin Ming's strength wasn't comparable to a two star Holy Lord level attack. To him, keeping up a barrage of this level wasn't anything at all.

This was just a well-trained martial artist doing hundreds of pushups without being exhausted.

Beneath the wild canopy of explosions, besides the World King level ancient beast, every single other vicious beast had been swallowed up by the flames and destroyed.

This scene left all of the other divine runic masters present speechless. In particular Suya; her eyes were as wide as full moons and she couldn't find the words to describe this.

She had read the test reports that Extreme Star Heavenly Palace

had sent her about the Nirvanic Flame Tribulation Flame Symbol. It was true that this flame symbol could be used multiple times, but every four times it was used it needed to recharge. It was impossible for it to perform like it did with Lin Ming today, continuously striking out without missing a beat!

Perhaps this wasn't just because Lin Ming was the creator of the Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol but also because of Lin Ming's terrifying strength!

She finally became faintly aware that this youth in front of her, in terms of divine runic arts or strength, had far surpassed her imagination. Right now it was impossible for her to estimate him. His depths were completely concealed, absolutely airtight!

"Elder Xue... Lin Ming, he... is he really less than 100 years old?"

Suya glanced at Old Xue. Everything related to Lin Ming had been told to her by Old Xue.

"His skeletal age indicated so. I think he wouldn't be so bored as to fake this."

Old Xue licked his lips. Over the years he had seen many incidents of a monstrous genius occur around Lin Ming. It was hard for anything Lin Ming did to surprise him now.

Suya sucked in a deep breath, at a loss for words.

She suddenly felt that it was a laughable matter when she looked at Lin Ming like he was a little brother.

The explosions within the array formation were like a violent storm, continuing without a hint of dying down.

Everyone was keeping quiet count of this intense bombardment in their hearts. Now, after an incense stick of time, more than a hundred explosions had occurred!

Even that final World King level beast was struck into bloody shape by the barrage of attacks!

It howled again and again. Its scales were swallowed up by those destructive flames and a great deal of its flesh was burnt black!

“Could it be... that Lin Ming can burn the World King level ancient vicious beast to death?”

This thought flashed through the minds of many people present. A human could not compare to the defensive abilities of an ancient vicious beast. Even the bodies of the saints, in terms of defense, were slightly worse than vicious beasts.

And now, in this situation, it seemed that Lin Ming would really be able to annihilate this vicious beast!

By this time, the number of explosions had risen to over 200!

This World King level armored forest dragon was already burnt into a miserable appearance. A large number of red bones had been exposed and also scorched black by the flames.

Finally, with a miserable wail it fell to the ground, surrounded by flames!

With a slight cracking sound, the armored forest dragon turned into endless motes of light and vanished.

Like this, all of the vicious beasts within the array formation had been completely destroyed by Lin Ming's Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol!

“How terrifying, even that World King level vicious beast was killed! This is only a fourth grade divine runic symbol!”

Although Lin Ming had relied on multiple attacks to achieve this, to use a fourth grade divine runic symbol to kill a World King vicious beast was far too amazing. Ordinarily speaking, only a sixth grade divine runic symbol could accomplish his.

Within the array formation, even though all of the vicious beasts had disappeared, the Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol within Lin Ming's hands continued to explode another 150 some times.

Only then did the sea of flames finally die down before vanishing.

Thus, the test had ended.

“412 times!”

After the flames within the array formation dissipated, some people spouted out this number. How was this testing divine runic symbols? This was more like setting off firecrackers!

Many divine runic masters looked at each other and gulped. They heard that Lin Ming had created a Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol that could be used multiple times but they never imagined this would be over 400 times.

The price of a Havoc Flame Symbol was at the top of fourth grade divine runic symbols. If the Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol was equal to 400 some Havoc Flame Symbols, then he was rich!

Many people soon realized this and Suyu was no exception. She sighed. When Extreme Star Heavenly Palace had done their own tests, the upper limits of use was only 200-300 times. The reason that Lin Ming could use it over 400 times was clearly because he understood the runic structure of the Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol.

“I wonder how headquarters’ copying plan is coming along.” Suyu thought as she watched Lin Ming walk down from the testing array formation, his face not even slightly reddened. An inexplicable feeling of dread appeared in her heart. She feared that this Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol wasn’t as simple as it seemed. If Lin Ming dared to put it forth in such a grandiose manner, would it truly be so easy to copy?

“This Lin Ming... I really have no idea what depths he is hiding!”

Suyu was increasingly awed by Lin Ming. And at this time, Lin Ming revealed a toothy smile as he asked, “Everyone, is there anyone that would like to buy this Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol? I only accept contribution points. You can purchase one

alone or in batches; the highest bid wins!”

With these words, the entire audience of divine runic masters was left stunned...

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At this time, a hundred million miles away, in Extreme Star Heavenly Palace’s seventh grade divine runic room –

Grandmaster Overflow had been locked in battle with this Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol for the last two days and one night.

During this time, Grandmaster Overflow didn’t rest at all. He sat motionless in front of the divine runic table, using all sorts of methods to analyze this fourth grade divine runic symbol!

From the start where he didn’t expect much at all, to the time when his interest was aroused by the unique structure of this divine runic symbol, and now through two days of battling, Grandmaster Overflow’s complexion became increasingly dignified.

He could clearly feel that this Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol was unusually troublesome.

However, the more difficult things were the more it stirred his fighting spirit. He believed that he was amongst the best rune breakers within the profession of dark divine runic masters. In this world, besides seventh grade divine runic symbols which were only a problem because of the limit of his cultivation, there was nothing he couldn’t unravel. Whether it was a fourth grade, fifth grade, or sixth grade divine runic symbol, he could open any lock.

These were the thoughts in Overflow’s mind.

He was a considerably prideful person.

And now, Overflow had already been defeated by this fourth grade divine runic symbol many times. At this time, two jade slips

were placed in front of him.

All sorts of calculations and deductions were recorded within these two jade slips. Overflow used his special inheritance to analyze the rune structure of the divine runic symbol. Every time he did so he had to make a massive number of calculations.

However, the results obtained from these deductions left Overflow feeling strange. He didn't know whether or not these results were right, and just what he could draw up if he followed these results.

Chapter 1613 – Array Destruction

This improved Havoc Flame Symbol was something that Overflow had never seen before. He had lived for several hundred thousand years, and through this long period of time he had come into contact with all sorts of strange divine runic symbols. Even so, he had never cracked apart such strange Law lines before.

The more Overflow calculated, the more hesitant he became.

With a deep breath, Overflow put the jade slip to the side. There were some things he had to confirm.

Overflow took up a red, square-shaped array disc from the side. This one was only a square foot but it was the most precious of his array discs. If this array disc was converted to contribution points of the Divine Runic Masters Guild, it might be worth around 60 million contribution points!

When analyzing the structure of a divine runic symbol in order to crack it open, a martial artist needed more than their soul force and sense; they also needed to rely on the power of array formations.

This was because the energy structure of a divine runic symbol was compressed within the tiny runes. One had to strip away the tiny runes in order to prove the internal structure.

And this red array disc was able to play such a role. It could simulate a stable force field that slowly and steadily separated each tiny rune.

Facing this fourth grade divine runic symbol, Overflow was extremely patient. It had been over 100,000 years since he had analyzed a fourth grade divine runic symbol. Not even a fifth grade divine runic symbol was able to arouse his interest.

What Overflow cracked was only sixth grade divine runic symbols and they also had to be the work of a grandmaster.

After gently placing a top grade soul crystal into the red array disc, the array formation within began to activate.

Among the spiritas, the value of a soul crystal was similar to a nine sun jade.

This top soul crystal was equal to 10 ordinary soul crystals. In other words, it was equal to 10 nine sun jades. This was a considerable price to pay in order to activate the array disc.

However, in order to ensure the precision of the array formation, Overflow used the best materials. And as long as materials were used for the purposes of cracking open the divine runic symbol, they would be paid for by the Extreme Star Holy Lands.

Just one array disc wasn't enough. Overflow hesitated for a moment and then took out another. This array disc was slightly less valuable than the first but it still cost about 30 million contribution points!

The use of this array disc was to simulate and imitate. But in the simulation process, one needed to use an extremely precious material called ripple sand. This ripple sand would be melted into liquid and the liquid would be used as 'ink' for the array disc to draw up a copy. And each portion of this material was worth around 5 million contribution points.

Every time Overflow conducted a test, he would need half a portion of ripple sand.

Like this, under the support of all sorts of precious materials and expensive array discs, Overflow's analyzing process began. As the two array discs floated in the air they released dazzling lights.

Outside of the divine runic room, Sage Brightyang and the others were completely focused on everything that was occurring. They hadn't left at all in the last two days.

It had to be known that all the materials Overflow used were provided by the Extreme Star Holy Lands. In this situation they

definitely didn't dare to leave.

Now that Sage Brightyang saw all these resources being slowly consumed in front of him, his lips twitched as he found the scene extremely distressing. The Extreme Star Holy Lands had already invested 70-80 million contribution points so far, and as this analyzing process continued, it would likely break through a hundred million and continue even higher!

Perhaps they would need to spend 400-500 million points before coming close to cracking Lin Ming's work.

"You must spend money to make money; without risk there is no reward..." Sage Brightyang grit his teeth, comforting himself like this. As long as they could unlock this Nirvanic Flame Tribulation Symbol then it would be worth the investment. Not only would they experience a favorable turn in the war, but the Extreme Star Holy Lands would profit immeasurably in the future.

As Sage Brightyang was lost in thought, he suddenly heard Grandmaster Overflow's sound transmission echo in his ears. "Quickly bring a martial artist that understands the seventh level Concept of Fire to be my assistant. The faster the better!"

"Fire... seventh level Concept?" Sage Brightyang was stunned. What was this for?

"Don't dawdle around. The creator of this divine runic symbol has reached the seventh level Fire Laws and the flames he uses are extremely strange. Go ask your Heavenly Palace to bring the one with the highest achievements in the Fire Laws to come. Immediately!"

Overflow was skilled in analysis. He analyzed that the flame energy textures within the Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol and the profound skill and perfection within those fire patterns left him shocked and in fear!

"It's actually two types of destructive flames, and the grades of

both flames are extremely high. Just how did he perfectly fuse these two types of flames together?”

As Overflow was lost in thought, Sage Brightyang was filled with doubts.

The creator of this divine runic symbol was Lin Ming, and Lin Ming was someone that understood the seventh level Concept of Fire? Just how was that possible? He wasn't even 100 years old!

But doubts were only doubts. Sage Brightyang soon found the martial artist with greatest attainments in the Fire Laws within Extreme Star Heavenly Palace. This person was his High Master, a half-step Empyrean powerhouse!

Within Extreme Star Heavenly Palace, this person was among the top 10 ranking characters.

His achievements in the Fire Laws had reached the peak of the seventh level Concept and even touched upon the mysteries of the eighth level Concept!

Sage Brightyang could affirm that this person's ability to control flames was countless times better than Lin Ming's.

“Good, not bad!”

Seeing the one arriving, Overflow was more than satisfied. A half-step Empyrean was not an ordinary individual. Just by standing there, he faintly affected the Laws around him, creating a terrifying pressure.

With this sort of assistance, Overflow felt his chances of success were much higher.

“Carefully release the flames and pour all of your understanding of the Fire Laws into the flame.”

Overflow rapidly ordered. At the same time, he activated all sorts of expensive array formations on the divine runic table. He was going to start attempting to copy the Nirvanic Tribulation Flame

Symbol.

Only by attempting to copy some of the tiny runes would Overflow know whether or not his analysis was correct.

The array formations of a seventh grade divine runic room were extraordinary. With just a thought, the materials were all processed and completed by the array formations. Then, with Overflow moving them with his soul force, they began to slowly condense into tiny runes.

At this time, Overflow picked up both array discs. He placed the Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol that Lin Ming created above the array disc on his left hand, and on the array disc above his right hand, a replica began to rapidly form.

Overflow used his horrifying soul force intensity to conduct all of this. The reason he called an assistant here was to control the flames to his satisfaction. Everything here was perfect!

“My analysis of the structure is correct!”

Overflow said with a dry mouth. His eyes shined with an increasingly bright light. As long as he could correctly analyze the rune structure then sooner or later he would be able to unlock this divine runic symbol.

And, Overflow had already confirmed over two days that the value of this divine runic symbol was absolutely that of a priceless treasures.

If he could unravel the principles behind it then in the future he could apply these principles to other divine runic symbols!

For a fourth grade divine runic symbol to be used 200-300 times couldn't be considered to amazing. But, what about a fifth or even sixth grade divine runic symbol?

That was an unimaginable wealth!

These distracting thoughts only appeared for a fleeting moment.

Overflow quickly focused all of his concentration on the copying process, lest a single mistake occur midway.

But at this time, Overflow ran into something that felt wrong as he was in the copying process.

This wrong feeling didn't come from the tiny runes of the divine runic symbol, but came from...

The Asura Heavenly Dao!

"The Asura Heavenly Dao does not fit!? No, I have already made a copy of the tiny rune structure, so this is proof that I didn't make a mistake. How come the Asura Heavenly Dao doesn't fit? This is impossible!"

Overflow's eyebrows shot up; this was unbelievable.

His deduction process was perfect; for him to copy it to this point proved this. Otherwise, it would have been impossible for the structure of tiny runes to take shape. However, there had been a major problem when fusing together the Heavenly Dao.

"I won't believe this!"

Beads of sweat began dripping down from Overflow's forehead.

He didn't believe he was wrong. He continued on, insisting no matter what. After drawing up the tiny rune structure, he tried to forcefully fuse the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws into it.

And at this time, the two array discs in his hands began to violently tremble!

Overflow's mind shook. Before he could respond, the tiny rune structure copy exploded!

This wasn't just an explosion of materials; there was also a backlash of the Asura Heavenly Dao patterns that Overflow had been trying to control!

Kacha!

With a heart-rending shriek, Overflow's complexion dramatically changed. He watched helplessly as the raging Asura Heavenly Dao brutally shattered those two priceless array discs in half!

Even the array formations above the divine runic table began disintegrating because of the impact of the Asura Heavenly Dao.

Rumble rumble rumble!

Once the first explosion occur, a series of ripple effects swept out. In that moment, the entire divine runic table seemed as if it had been swept into a storm and left in an utter mess.

At least four or five array formations had been destroyed and even four of the array discs that Overflow brought had been shattered!

Overflow froze, his complexion becoming increasingly dark!

He stared blankly at the array discs in his left and right hands, unable to accept everything that just happened. His most precious array discs, the tools to his livelihood, had been destroyed like this!?

In that explosion just now, according to the standards of the Divine Runic Masters Guild, he had lost at least 100 million contribution points!

Not only were Overflow's losses serious, but the truth was that the Extreme Star Holy Lands had lost a great deal too!

The array formations on the divine runic table each had a dreadful construction cost, not much cheaper than Overflow's array discs. With four or five array formations exploding, the Extreme Star Holy Lands would need to pay up nearly 100 million contribution points!

Contributions needed to pay traded through materials, pills, and other such things. They were extremely precious!

As the explosion occurred, Sage Brightyang's High Master was standing at the side. But, he could only watch helplessly on as this occurred, unable to stop it.

Although the power behind the explosion wasn't too high, it was still caused by the Asura Heavenly Dao. Moreover, because it happened within the array formations it was impossible to prevent. Unless one thoroughly understood the Asura Heavenly Dao, it didn't matter how high their cultivation was!

And at this time, the doors to the divine runic room burst open. Sage Brightyang who had by this time already lost his composure rushed in. He looked at the chaotic divine runic table with a pale face, his body shivering, unable to say a single word.

Chapter 1614 – One Billion Point Reward

Sage Brightyang took quick inventory of the losses. Two 30 million point array formations had exploded as well as three 10 million point array formations.

In addition, a massive number of tools and rare and precious materials were destroyed!

These losses left Sage Brightyang bleeding in his heart!

For this last year the Extreme Star Holy Lands had been at war and had spent a massive amount of resources. Now, the entire Holy Land was having trouble distributing resources.

As a result of that brief moment just now, 100 million points had been lost. If these 100 million points were changed into divine runic symbols, just what sort of war strength would that be!

Moreover, this operation of cracking apart the divine runic symbol was proposed and led by Sage Brightyang. He had already made an oath to the Vice Palace Master that he would absolutely break the divine runic symbol otherwise he would be punished.

Even searching for help, the distribution of materials, the requisition of the seventh grade divine runic room, everything had been handled by Sage Brightyang.

He originally thought that everything would be a success and he would be able to obtain a great merit. As for himself, he would have received tremendous advantages in this mission. However, he never imagined things would develop to such a point!

If he couldn't unravel the divine runic symbol and also had such great losses, he definitely couldn't take responsibility for this failure!

Thinking of this, Sage Brightyang's face turned liver red. As he looked at Overflow he wished that he could slap this moron to death!

“Overflow... this, this is all because of you! You said that there was no lock you couldn’t unlock! Array formations worth 100 million points have been destroyed by you!”

Sage Brightyang suppressed the bubbling anger in his heart. He didn’t dare to tear down all decorum with Overflow. First, Overflow was considerably strong to begin with, and secondly, he was also depending on Overflow to recoup some of the losses from just now.

Although he had already lost all hope that Overflow could unravel the Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol, if he were to give up now then he would be the guilty party here. If Overflow could make any form of progress then he could at least recover just a little bit of the losses.

Seeing Sage Brightyang’s rage-filled eyes, Overflow’s complexion turned icy cold. “What are you trying to say? My losses were worse than yours! This time I broke apart four of my array discs!”

“But all of these experiments were led by you!” Sage Brightyang said, his words becoming increasingly loud and frothy.

“Yes, I was the one who led them but you are the one who called me here!” Overflow coldly said, not yielding an inch.

“Stop fighting!” At this time, Sage Brightyang’s High Master spoke out.

Out of everyone here, he had the highest status. “Overflow, is there no chance for you to unravel this divine runic symbol?”

This High Master also knew how serious today’s matters were. Within Extreme Star Heavenly Palace, there were internal struggles for power. There were countless individuals that were eyeing Sage Brightyang’s seat as the Internal Affairs Envoy! This was a highly lucrative position.

Because of today’s matters, it was even possible that he would be dismissed from his position. This was because there were a

considerable number of people in Extreme Star Heavenly Palace who advocated to buy divine runic symbols from Lin Ming at an increased price.

“I don’t know... if I can resolve the question as to how to fuse the Asura Heavenly Dao and the tiny runes then I might be able to succeed...”

Overflow quietly said. He didn’t know just where the error had been and why the Asura Heavenly Dao Law lines would have such a violent explosion.

“I will not provide any more materials or array formations!” Sage Brightyang coldly said.

Overflow sneered. “Then we’re done here.”

The two stood in sharp opposition. Sage Brightyang frowned. If he continued to provide materials then his gamble would become even larger. If he lost... Sage Brightyang shuddered at the consequences.

He looked towards his High Master for help.

This High Master couldn’t decide on a plan. He thought for a moment and then came up with a compromise. “Continue trying to unravel it, but don’t do any tests if you can. If you must do tests, don’t use any expensive array formations...”

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At this time, within the Divine Runic Masters Guild.

After Lin Ming finished his test, many divine runic masters scrambled to purchase a Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol.

The price continued to climb.

Finally, the price rose to 900,000 contribution points for a single one!

This price was already several times the original max price of the Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol.

If there were 900,000 contribution points, one could buy 300 Havoc Flame Symbols.

And if they bought a Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol, it could only be used 200-300 times.

Of course, the Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol was slightly stronger and in terms of flexibility 300 Havoc Flame Symbols were better. At the very least, one didn't need to fill them with energy.

“Lin Ming, you brat, you're rich now! 900,000 for one, if you make two or three a day that is 2 million points... hey, since I looked after you, don't you think you should give me a red envelope for luck?”

After the price was settled, Old Xue slyly grinned at Lin Ming and elbowed him. With so many contribution points, even Old Xue was feeling jealous.

Lin Ming rolled his eyes. “Since when did you look after me?”

Old Xue froze as he heard this. He immediately smiled and said, “You silly blind wolf, I was the one who first led you to the Mission Division!”

Old Xue spoke with a half-joking tone but Lin Ming was left speechless. That was considered as having looked after him?

However, he didn't doubt that if he really took out a red envelope, this old fellow in front of him definitely wouldn't refuse it.

He shook his head, “This still isn't enough...”

Although Lin Ming could make more than one or two Nirvanic tribulation Flame Symbols a day, he couldn't do this for two or three years. This price point wasn't satisfactory to him.

“It's still not enough? Then how much do you want!?” Old Xue blew his beard up from shock. Even he couldn't earn points like this and yet Lin Ming said it wasn't enough.

“3 billion...”

As Lin Ming put forth this number, Old Xue felt his heart skip a beat. He suddenly remembered that four months ago he had looked over a list of precious materials that Lin Ming had needed. The total price for these materials was around 3 billion contribution points!

Old Xue originally thought that Lin Ming had gone mad. After all, not even he could come up with 3 billion points. But now, in just four months, although Lin Ming didn't have 3 billion points he could still easily earn 1-2 million contribution points in a day!

At this rate, Lin Ming would sooner or later earn 3 billion points!

Thinking of this, Old Xue was left in a cold sweat. This boy Lin Ming, had he already expected to go through this method to rapidly earn contribution points?

If so, then this brat was far too horrifying. This proved that it wasn't an accident when he improved the Havoc Flame Symbol!

“It seems you must buy those materials no matter what...” Old Xue thoughtfully said.

“Of course.” Lin Ming nodded.

“Even the Divine Runic Masters Guild doesn't have all the materials you are searching for... some materials must be searched for somewhere else, or you must wait a period of time...”

“What about the treasure fair?”

Lin Ming suddenly said. When Lin Ming first came to Divine Rune City with Yue Liuxing, he had heard her mention the treasure fair that happened at there.

This was an event organized by the trading companies of the Divine Runic Masters Guild and would occur every three years. The treasure fair occurred on a vast scale. At that time, all sorts of important figures from the Asura Road would come to display and

trade their treasures.

Amongst these treasures there would even be priceless valuables that would be publicly auctioned. At that time, all sorts of top grade pills, divine runic symbols, rare materials, ancient inheritances, flesh and blood of God Beasts, Empyrean spirit treasures, transcendent divine mights, and so forth would be sold!

And the currency of the treasure fair, besides origin energy runes, was contribution points from the Divine Runic Masters Guild.

Contribution points were considered the universal currency issued by the Divine Runic Masters Guild. They were considered a better and easier to use currency than the Asura Road's more universal currency, origin energy runes.

This was because contribution points could be exchanged for all sorts of rare items from the Divine Runic Masters Guild. As for origin energy runes, they might not be able to buy these things.

For those people that came to participate in the treasure fair, as long as they could bring out something that the Divine Runic Masters Guild found valuable, they could change it for an equal amount of contribution points. In the treasure fair there were some items that could only be bought with contribution points. Thus, the participants would usually exchange materials for a massive number of points.

Lin Ming expected that he would be able to buy many of the rare materials he needed at the treasure fair.

Now, there was still a year until the treasure fair. During this remaining year he had to earn enough wealth so that he wouldn't be stretched for points when he needed it.

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As Lin Ming was beginning to draw Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbols as well as study how to improve a fifth grade divine runic

symbol, the Extreme Star Holy Lands had quietly posted a titanic reward.

They were recruiting dark divine runic masters from all over with a reward of one billion points to crack open the Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol. As long as they could accomplish this then the Extreme Star Holy Lands would share the results with all dark divine runic masters as well as reward those who contributed.

Of course, this reward couldn't see the light of day; it was only sent to those who existed in the world of dark divine runic masters. But even the divine runic masters of the Divine Runic Masters Guild had some connections with dark divine runic masters. Thus, this news passed through all sorts of channels and became known by some well-informed individuals within the Divine Runic Masters Guild.

“They want to unravel the Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol? This Extreme Star Holy Lands really doesn't care about face!”

Within the Divine Runic Masters Guild, some divine runic masters had mocking expressions as they heard this news. No matter how it was said, pirating the achievements of others was extremely disgraceful, especially in the world of divine runic arts.

“Hah! This is a war that relates to the decline and rise of their sect, so what is their face worth in all of this? Lin Ming's Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbols are 900,000 points each, so buying 1000 of them will cost 900 million points. The Extreme Star Holy Lands might not be able to pay such a high price. Moreover, once a soldier with a Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol dies, a situation will appear where they can't use its complete worth...”

“If they can appropriate this new technology for themselves then they can make as many as they want. And posting a reward is that fastest and most economical way to find people to crack open this divine runic symbol...”

Some people echoed.

These divine runic masters had no obligation to keep a secret for the Extreme Star Holy Lands. After one person knew that a reward was posted, this news spread from one person to ten, from ten to a hundred, and soon throughout the entire Divine Runic Masters Guild.

“This time, Overflow himself is leading the mission. Although his character is corrupt and he is infamous, in terms of unraveling divine runic symbols there is nothing below a sixth grade divine runic symbol that can stop him.”

“If he really can unravel the secrets then Extreme Star Holy Lands will have gained big.”

Several divine runic masters discussed. In front of so many benefits, no one could feel relaxed. If the Extreme Star Holy Lands wanted to steal away this massive cake then there would naturally be people that were jealous.

However, they were only jealous. As orthodox divine runic masters they didn't have any foundation to unravel divine runic symbols so it was impossible for them.

Chapter 1615 – Bankrupt Plan

News about the Extreme Star Holy Lands posting a reward soon spread throughout the entire Divine Runic Masters Guild. Even the gate guards and floor sweepers knew about it.

As for Suyu, she had been uneasily pacing back and forth in her section of the Mission Division, as if something were heavily weighing down on her mind. Luckily, she didn't see Lin Ming these days otherwise she would have no idea how to face him.

These matters also entered into Lin Ming's ears, but he didn't care about it at all. When he drew up the Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbols he hadn't even left behind any specialized anti-forgery tiny runes. He guessed that these dark divine runic masters had the ability to crack the method by which he had drawn up the Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol and they could even find top fire-attribute martial artists to simulate the effect of the heavenly tribulation flames and nirvanic flames.

However, no matter what they tried they wouldn't be able to unravel the Asura Heavenly Dao.

That was the foundation for Lin Ming creating the Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbols.

As Lin Ming grew stronger and stronger over the years, he increasingly discovered just how heaven-defying the functions of the Asura Sutra were, and this was in a situation where he only obtained a single remnant volume of the Asura Sutra. If he were to collect all of them, it was unknown just what effects there would be.

This also caused Lin Ming to increasingly anticipate the final smelting trial. He wondered; just what had the Asura Road Master left behind in the final trial?

As these thoughts flashed through Lin Ming's mind, he no longer

thought about them. He instead devoted his full time and concentration to drawing up the Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbols.

In this period of time, Lin Ming had only produced 30 Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbols.

He was well aware that the more rare something was, the more precious it became. On the other hand, if he drew up too many things then it would instead become less valuable.

Currently, Lin Ming was selling Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbols at a fixed price of 900,000 contribution points. And whenever he put one up for sale it would be nearly immediately grabbed up.

And on the outside, the true price of the Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol actually rose to beyond a million points and the supply still fell far short of demand.

Like this, Lin Ming would only draw up two Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbols every day. By doing this, he could save a tremendous amount of time and use it to research how to transform a fifth grade divine runic symbol.

Time slowly passed. Without knowing it, three months flew by.

In these three months, Lin Ming had earned 55 million contribution points. But, in order to transform a fifth grade divine runic symbol he had to use up a massive amount of materials. Moreover, many of these materials were extremely precious and had to be purchased with points. On this alone, Lin Ming spent over 8 million contribution points.

From this day, there was still nine months until the treasure fair.

Lin Ming had less than 55 million points. With this tiny amount of wealth, wanting to win anything in grand auctions at this treasure fair would be a futile gesture.

Calculating the numbers, Lin Ming had to spend the rest of his

time earning as many points as he could. Otherwise if a rare material appeared that he needed but he couldn't afford, he wouldn't even have time for regret.

Whether it was drawing up a divine runic symbol or researching how to transform a fifth grade divine runic symbol, he had to fuse the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws so it was impossible to carry on this process in a time enchantment, because time enchantments twisted the surrounding laws.

In other words, Lin Ming truly had nine months remaining.

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At this time, Suyu was sitting behind her lonely counter in the Mission Division, her mood extremely poor.

This was because news of the Extreme Star Holy Lands posting a reward for dark divine runic masters had spread out, placing her in a very awkward position.

Although it could be said that the Extreme Star Holy Lands cracking open the Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol had nothing to do with the overwhelming majority of divine runic masters, these methods were abhorred by almost all divine runic masters.

Her association with this caused Suyu's area in the Mission Division to be much lonelier than usual.

Luckily, the Internal Affairs Envoy at Extreme Star Heavenly Palace responsible for leading the assignment to unravel the Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol had drawn all attention to himself, making it so that Suyu's mission wasn't as urgent and giving her a moment to catch her breath.

"Have you heard the news? The seventh grade divine runic room at the Extreme Star Holy Lands had another explosion occur. It seems that many array formations blew apart."

In a corner of the mission hall, many divine runic masters were talking amongst themselves in a low voice as they sipped on tea.

Suya was considerably strong herself and her hearing was top notch. She naturally heard what they were speaking about.

There was an explosion in the Extreme Star Holy Lands' seventh grade divine runic room!?

Suya felt her heart fall to her stomach. She lowered her head and listened carefully. She had yet to hear of this matter because no one had informed her.

“There was an explosion? Why?”

“Hehe, that was because a long time before the billion point reward was posted, there had already been an explosion. Otherwise, why do you think the Extreme Star Holy Lands would put forth such an astronomical reward to gather so many dark divine runic masters to crack open the Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol? This is because they had been defeated in their first attempt and now with the divine runic room exploding once more, they failed again!”

“How do you know this?”

“Well, I have a friend who is a dark divine runic master. You know, I’ve tried urging him to follow the correct path and stop wasting his time and energy with that garbage, but he doesn’t heed my advice.”

“So that’s how it is!”

If this news came directly from a dark divine runic master than it was likely true.

“Incredible, simply incredible... I can’t imagine just how this Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol was produced. Overflow leads a team of dark divine runic masters and yet even he can’t succeed. It’s far too odd!”

When the members of the Divine Runic Masters Guild heard that the Extreme Star Holy Lands had put forth a sky high reward of a billion points to unravel the Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol,

they felt a bit sorry for Lin Ming. They thought that the achievements he worked so hard on would be stolen by others. But, they never imagined that such a powerful lineup of dark divine runic masters would not only fail to accomplish anything but instead blow up the entire divine runic room!

“Incredible? Hehe! Don’t look down on Lin Ming just because he’s young. It’s like his inheritance comes from an entirely different branch of thought and his inheritances are different from ours. This Lin Ming has a master who has reached an incredible boundary. If his master were to ever come out then he would likely be the most revered divine runic grandmaster in the entire Asura Road. His status would be unshakable and not even an influence like the Extreme Star Holy Lands would dare to do anything to Lin Ming. I suspect that Lin Ming’s master is even fiercer than the Palace Master of Extreme Star Heavenly Palace!”

No one doubted that Lin Ming had a ridiculously powerful master.

If it were martial arts inheritances, then one could adventure through ancient ruins left by powerful masters and obtain their inheritance jade slips and heavenly materials to rise up to the top alone.

But this was impossible with the divine runic arts. This was because one had to have a master teaching them personally; there was no meaning in just perusing through jade slips.

Thus, even if Lin Ming stood up and said that he had no master and had taught himself, no one would believe it.

“Disregarding Lin Ming’s master, Lin Ming himself has an unfathomably high degree of talent. I just learnt that Lin Ming had obtained the qualifications to become a third grade divine runic master over 20 years ago, and at that time he was less than 60 years of age! Elder Xue and Elder Su had two young apprentices that participated in the same examination as Lin Ming, and the results

were as different as the heavens and earth. During that examination, Lin Ming tested straight to a third grade divine runic master.”

After Lin Ming became famous, many people began to look up his background and history.

They also dug up the fact that Lin Ming had become a third grade divine runic master before he was 60 years of age.

When these divine runic masters heard this, all of them were stunned speechless. To them, becoming a third grade divine runic master was something that happened when they were several hundred years old!

“Overflow and his group, as well as the Extreme Star Holy Lands, only have themselves to blame. They wanted to crudely unravel the results of the research of others like deluded idiots and now they can’t even recoup their initial investment. These people spent a full three months preparing for this experiment and yet even though they bet everything on this attempt, the result was that it blew up in their faces!”

“Just how many array formations were lost? Didn’t they carry on simulations before the test?” Some people asked, feeling this all too unbelievable. Overflow was not some common nobody. His talent, if he had chosen to walk the orthodox path, would have quickly allowed him to rise to become the Vice President of the Divine Runic Masters Guild.

“Of course they made simulations and at the time there hadn’t been any problems. But as they began the true experiment, there was a problem during the fusion of the Asura Heavenly Dao. They lost control of the process and a storm of the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws blew out, causing the divine runic symbol structure to collapse. Everything was uncontrollable after that. Not only did they lose seven or eight array formations but they even lost three to five array discs.”

“Seven or eight array formations! Just how many points is that!?”

“I heard from my friend that the points lost was this number...” The one speaking put forth an exaggerated expression and stretched out eight fingers.

“80 million? No... it can't be... seven or eight array formations and three to five array discs can't be that cheap. It shouldn't be... 800 million!?”

The several divine runic masters looked at each other, horror shining wide in their eyes.

“That's right, it was 800 million points! After all the costs were added together, including the array formations and array discs from the first failure, as well as all materials used during the last three months, this is the total cost! Of course, 800 million is only a number that my friend estimated, but it shouldn't be too far off. And, these points weren't just paid for by the Extreme Star Holy Lands. Overflow also put forth a considerable amount of materials and most of the shattered array discs were his.”

“This... isn't this too exaggerated...?” The Extreme Star Holy Lands and Overflow had lost way too much!

“And this is only if they give up! If they continue onwards then they will lose even more! My friend is already ready to withdraw. He studied this divine runic symbol for three months and the conclusion he came to is that this Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol cannot be undone by mortal hands. The reason is that the inheritance of the creator is far too special... they simply cannot understand it...”

As the several divine runic masters spoke they became increasingly loud and boisterous. They became more awed and terrified by the mysteries that surrounded Lin Ming.

And, this discussion all fell in Suya's ears.

If this news had already spread to the Divine Runic Masters Guild then it was likely to have occurred yesterday. Even so, she hadn't heard any news. The reason for this was likely not because they were hiding anything from her but because the matter was far too large and involved the one in charge of leading this mission. All of this led to a chaotic situation within headquarters and now no one had time to bother with contacting her.

As for learning through others that the plan to copy Lin Ming's divine runic symbol had become completely bankrupt, this could only be called ironic.

As Suyu thought of this, an unspeakable feeling surged up in her heart.

She didn't seem surprised at all. Rather, Sage Brightyang had slapped himself to death this time.

And after several quarter hours passed, another Extreme Star Command was sent down to Suyu from headquarters. Suyu's mind shook. The Extreme Star Command that was sent this time, could it be...

As Suyu looked through the Extreme Star Command and also saw the person that issued it, she was startled. This Extreme Star Command was issued by a new Internal Affairs Envoy. In other words, the original Internal Affairs Envoy, Sage Brightyang, had already been removed from his office...

Chapter 1616 – Lin Ming’s Conditions

In these days, Lin Ming nearly hadn’t rested at all. He spent 90% of his time calculating the rune structure of a fifth grade divine runic symbol.

The work required to improve a fifth grade divine runic symbol was several times greater than what Lin Ming originally anticipated. Lin Ming had already completed the theoretical basis for revising a fifth grade divine runic symbol, but when he actually tried to apply this there were many problems that had to be solved.

At this time, a loud knock sounded out from the door.

Lin Ming thought it was Xiao Moxian, but after opening the door he discovered that it was Suyu standing at the entrance.

Today’s Suyu was still dressed in a sultry outfit that gushed out with sex appeal. The tight-fitting fabric hugged her curves, perfectly outlining her explosive figure. The collar at her chest was opened up, plunging down deep and leaving one lost in daydreams.

Suyu’s manner of dress hadn’t changed but her eyes had gone through a great transformation. When she looked at Lin Ming before, there was always a hint of contempt in her eyes, as if she were looking at a little child. But now, there was respect in her eyes as she looked at Lin Ming, and even some awe.

“What is it?” Lin Ming was stunned for a moment. Then he casually asked Suyu to enter. His work room was a thorough mess.

Suyu didn’t mind. She found a place to sit. After a moment of hesitation, she said, “Sir Lin, you probably already learned that the Extreme Star Holy Lands wanted to copy your Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol...”

“Oh.”

Lin Ming faintly nodded without much expression. “And?”

Suya could feel a strong sense of confidence from this indifference. It was like Lin Ming completely didn't mind the massive undertaking the Extreme Star Holy Lands had carried out to copy his divine runic symbol. In fact, it didn't seem as if he was worried at all. Without a doubt, Lin Ming had absolute confidence in his own Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol, and the Extreme Star Holy Lands actions didn't even qualify to earn Lin Ming's disdain. Rather, he ignored them altogether.

"They... failed..." Suya awkwardly said. She knew that even if she didn't say it, Lin Ming would find out sooner or later so she might as well speak on her own initiative.

"Oh."

Lin Ming replied yet again. It was clear he had already expected this result.

"Sir Lin, although I know that coming to ask you for your cooperation yet again is shameless on my part, but... I have no choice but to ask you. I heard that you are in need of contribution points, right?"

Lin Ming remained silent, waiting for Suya to speak.

"I just received an Extreme Star Command from headquarters. They wish to purchase 2000 Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbols. For this, they are willing to pay a total of 1.2 billion contribution points.

Suya carefully said. As she spoke she paid careful attention to Lin Ming's expression.

When Suya received the Extreme Star Command a quarter hour ago she nearly wanted to curse out loud. Headquarters had used a stupid research project to offend Lin Ming and now they actually wanted to buy from him at an even higher price. Then what were all their previous efforts for?

Without a doubt, the mission to ignore any sense of shame,

forget all face she had, and apologize and then negotiate with Lin Ming definitely fell on her. This caused Suyu to be fully enraged.

But what other choice did she have? As a disciple of the Extreme Star Holy Lands she had no choice but to follow orders. Moreover, she was related to the matter of Sage Brightyang being dismissed from his position.

Suyu had to complete this matter no matter what. The Extreme Star Command that headquarters had passed down to her was, "Find any solution possible using any method you have. The spending limit is 1.2 billion points. Any more and headquarters cannot shoulder the cost."

As for 'using any method you have', that left Suyu's heart racing.

She was a woman all on her own. Besides her seduction skills, just what other methods could she use?

Today, she went straight to the point and simply listed headquarters' conditions, leaving no room for bargaining.

She was extremely scared that Lin Ming wouldn't agree. If Lin Ming didn't agree would she really have to offer up her body?

But to be fair, in terms of looks, ability, and talent, Suyu didn't feel as if she would be suffering a loss. But, the crux of the issue was that facing this icy Lin Ming, Suyu suspected that even if she offered her body on her own initiative, she would still be refused.

If that happened then she really wouldn't have any face left over!

Hearing this total of 1.2 billion points, Lin Ming hesitated for a moment.

This was equal to 600,000 points for each divine runic symbol.

2000 symbols... this would require a long time to complete. It would drag on almost to the start of the treasure fair.

And for only 1.2 billion points, that might not be enough for Lin Ming to buy his materials.

Thinking of this, Lin Ming frowned.

Suya felt her heart gripped as Lin Ming frowned. “The money for materials can also be put forth by us.”

The materials that Lin Ming used for a Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol weren’t rare at all. Adding in this small amount of money wouldn’t change anything.

“1.2 billion is too little.”

Lin Ming quietly said.

As Suyu heard this, she felt the world fade around her. This was the highest price that headquarters was able to put forth!

Currently, the Extreme Star Holy Lands was far too tight on resources. With the failure of the last experiment, the Extreme Star Holy Lands had no intention of suffering another misfortune.

“Lin Ming... what do I need to do for you to agree? As long as you don’t increase the price, any other conditions... you can have them no matter what... I’ll do anything.”

As Suyu spoke, her milk white breasts heaved up and down. She was actually feeling anxious.

Through all these years, Suyu’s sex appeal had caused countless men to surround her and prostrate themselves at her feet. But even amongst all these people she was able to calmly draw back. Yet today, in front of a little brother that was less than 100 years old, she was feeling increasingly intense emotions.

Suya felt her cheeks brighten as she spoke these suggestive words. Even so, she could faintly feel that Lin Ming’s manner indicated he likely wouldn’t have such a request. If so, then it was hard to say whether or not today’s negotiations would come to a fruitful end.

Lin Ming thought for a moment. He needed at least 2 billion contribution points to have sufficient capital in the treasure fair.

But this price wouldn't be given to him by any organization.

Thinking like this, Lin Ming said, "I can draw up 2000 Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbols at the price of 1.2 billion points. But... I have a condition. That is, a year from now I want the Extreme Star Holy Lands to lend me 800 million points without interest, for one year."

There were no permanent enemies, only eternal interests. Lin Ming wouldn't hold onto the fact that the Extreme Star Holy Lands had tried to forge his own Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol and ignore profits.

After all, if Lin Ming wanted to earn a big amount of contribution points now, he could only go through the Extreme Star Holy Lands.

Hearing Lin Ming's words, Suyu let out a light breath of relief. She didn't know what she was feeling. His request was only to borrow money without interest...

If so, then the Extreme Star Holy Lands would likely agree to his request.

Although the Extreme Star Holy Lands was stretched in resources, if they mortgaged some things they could still obtain enough contribution points.

"I will discuss this with headquarters."

"Okay, then I will begin to draw up the Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbols. Every half month I will hand in a part of the mission and you will pay me my contribution points."

Lin Ming stood up and spoke. He was already in the pose of sending out his guest. After all, his time was precious.

After being seen out by Lin Ming, Suyu felt frustrated. It was like she hadn't been welcome at all...

Like this, the conditions had been set.

Although the price that the Extreme Star Holy Lands put forth wasn't high, it was enough to satisfy Lin Ming's requirements to participate in the treasure fair.

Like this, Lin Ming started working night and day.

In the course of such work, Lin Ming steadily improved, whether it was in his skill level of the divine runic arts or his understanding of the Asura Heavenly Dao.

Half a month later, Lin Ming brought a stack of finished Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbols and arrived at the Mission Division.

Suya had already been waiting for Lin Ming. As she saw Lin Ming walking over she quickly moved forwards to welcome him.

"Are the contribution points prepared?" Lin Ming had a somewhat exhausted look on his face. During this last half month he had clearly consumed a massive amount of energy. Even though Xiao Moxian regularly made him soul nourishing soups, they were still unable to fully supplement the soul force that he was spending like running water.

To complete the divine runic symbols, Lin Ming squeezed dry the well of his soul force. If it weren't for a recent breakthrough in the Divine Mist Heart Mantra he wouldn't have been able to withstand such high intensity work.

Seeing such a Lin Ming, Suyu felt a bit apologetic. She quickly replied, "I've prepared it. This also includes Sir Lin's payment for the first 20 Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbols."

"Mm..."

Lin Ming nodded and then took out the Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbols from his spatial ring and placed them on the countertop.

There were three stacks, each stack extremely thick.

Seeing so many Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbols, Suyu was

shocked. “This is... how many are there?”

“Each stack is 60 for a total of 180.” Lin Ming lightly said.

Suya gulped. “These... you drew these up in half a month?”

“Yes. Is there a problem?”

“No... no problem...”

It had to be known that when an ordinary divine runic master drew up a divine runic symbol, there were three processes.

There was handling the materials, drawing up the main body of the divine runic symbol, and then fusing together the final Heavenly Dao Laws.

During the first step, one could use support from array formations so it wouldn't take much time. But as for the second and third step, for a peak fourth grade divine runic symbol each took at least two hours.

To draw up a full divine runic symbol took a minimum of four hours.

Moreover, every time one was created it would consume a massive amount of soul force. One had to rest during this period of time. In a normal day, drawing up two or three would be the average speed for a general divine runic master to draw up a fourth grade divine runic symbol.

This was why Old Xue ridiculed Lin Ming and said he could earn 2 million contribution points by drawing up two or three a day.

If one could draw up four divine runic symbols in a day, that was already an extremely heavy workload.

But Lin Ming had actually drawn up 12 a day! That was three times the limit of an ordinary divine runic master!

Every day had 24 hours. He had to draw up one every two hours and that was in a situation where he had no rest! How could Suyu not be shocked by this.

“Contribution points...” Lin Ming flatly repeated.

“Oh, yes... of course...” Suyu had her maid give Lin Ming his contribution points.

Without speaking further, Lin Ming walked away. 15 days of high intensity work had left him deeply exhausted, however he had no other choice but to hurry ahead.

Lin Ming had six months to complete these 2000 divine runic symbols!

Chapter 1617 – Extreme Dual Polarity Symbol

Time flew by, an unending river.

Lin Ming worked like a construct that didn't know of exhaustion. The amount of work he completed every day was staggering.

When Lin Ming's soul force ran dry he would meditate and revolve the Divine Mist Heart Mantra.

As a peak transcendent divine might, the Divine Mist Heart Mantra was the most suitable method for restoring his dried up soul force. In the past when Lin Ming cultivated the Divine Mist Heart Mantra underneath Empyrean Divine Mist, he had his own spiritual sea completely ruptured and then restored. The pain from that time was countless times more exaggerated and agonizing than his current soul force exhaustion.

Day after day, Lin Ming discovered that the intensity of his soul force was rapidly growing!

At the start he was able to draw up 12 divine runic symbols a day before he collapsed.

But after two months, Lin Ming was able to draw up 13 divine runic symbols a day. After another two months, Lin Ming was able to draw up 14 divine runic symbols.

This also meant that every time Lin Ming turned in part of the mission, each time there would be more than the last.

Seeing Lin Ming work like a monster, bringing in almost 200 Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbols every half month and even seeing this number increase over time, Suyu was shocked at first, apprehensive next, and then as she became accustomed to this she simply became numb.

This was the beginning of the sixth month.

Lin Ming handed over 220 Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbols.

In these past 15 days he had drawn up 220 peak fourth grade divine runic symbols. Even Suyu didn't know what expression to have for this.

With this, Lin Ming's mission was complete. Moreover, he had even produced an extra hundred!

And before these divine runic symbols were shipped to the warfront they had already undergone a routine inspection.

The 2100 plus Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbols were completely without a single defect. All of them maintained an absolute standard in quality. Compared to the 20 Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbols that Lin Ming had sent at the start, none of them were worse.

At the end, the number of times that the flame symbols could be used had climbed to over 300. This was a result of Lin Ming's technique becoming increasingly skilled and intricate, leading to each Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol he created becoming increasingly perfect.

To produce a single divine runic symbol at a high quality wasn't strange at all. But, to produce over 2000 divine runic symbols perfectly, that was horrifying.

Not just that, but Lin Ming had maintained a constant speed of three times that of the average person!

And what left Suyu breathless the most was that Lin Ming had continued this ultra-high intensity work pace for almost six months without end!

The exhaustion, loneliness, aridness of the situation, it was simply hard to imagine. Every time Suyu saw Lin Ming she could also feel the serious overdrawn nature of his soul force. Perhaps anyone else would have collapsed by now.

But Lin Ming was able to persist through all of it.

Regarding this, it wasn't just Suyu, but even the people of Extreme Star Heavenly Palace had long been at a loss for words. They originally thought that Lin Ming would need at least two years to complete 2000 divine runic symbols, but he had managed to accomplish this in half a year with a production speed that could frighten one to death. They also finally realized that their early plan to copy his work had been doomed to failure from the start.

Lin Ming was able to produce these Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbols not because of luck or coincidence but because he was an abnormal monster.

"Sir Lin, this is your reward." Suyu handed over a jade slip with around 13 million contribution points. With this, their transaction had ended.

Although Extreme Star Heavenly Palace had paid a gigantic sum of money for these Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbols, correspondingly the frontlines of the war had obtained remarkable victories!

These Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbols had a specific activation method and only the disciples of Extreme Star Heavenly Palace knew how to use them. If 20-30 Holy Lords activated their Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbols together, even a World King would have to retreat.

"Thank you."

Lin Ming took the jade slip and swept his sense through it. After seeing that there were no errors, he planned to return to his own room. But at this time, Suyu called out to him, "Sir Lin, please wait."

"Mm? Is there something else?" Lin Ming turned to look at Suyu.

Suyu covered her mouth and laughed. "Sir Lin, do you find me annoying? It seems that every time you come you are in a hurry, as if you're afraid to see me!"

“Sir Lin, it is like this. The mission to complete 2000 Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbols has already been finished, but I wonder if Sir Lin has any interest in continuing to cooperate with us. The Extreme Star Holy Lands is willing to put forth a price of 600,000 points for every divine runic symbol and continue purchasing Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbols from Sir Lin...”

Even 2000 Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbols wasn't enough for the Extreme Star Holy Lands to use.

Before this, they had only requested for Lin Ming to draw up 2000 because they had thought that Lin Ming would take a long time to complete this mission. But at that time, perhaps the war between the Extreme Star Holy Lands and Heaven Strife Holy Lands would have come to an end.

Now that they saw Lin Ming's rapid production speed, they would be willing to eat the costs of another 1000.

“I'm sorry... there are other matters I must attend to.” Lin Ming refused this request but he didn't absolutely reject all cooperation. He thought for a moment and said, “After around five more months I should have finished things. At that time I will consider working with your Extreme Star Holy Lands again...”

“Great!”

Suya was already satisfied with such an answer. In her opinion, Lin Ming wasn't someone that lied or exaggerated. If he said something then that was proof he had confidence or interest.

Like this, Lin Ming took the 10 million plus points and went to the special materials section of the Divine Runic Masters Guild.

He bought up 12 million points of materials in a single go, including all sorts of rare and precious ones. For instance, osmosis rainbow flower fruit. This sort of fruit was the size of a pigeon egg and cost 3 million contribution points, but Lin Ming purchased three of them together.

After taking up all of these materials, Lin Ming returned to his own divine runic room.

By this point Lin Ming had long switched into the highest quality seventh grade divine runic room. This divine runic room was no smaller than a city square and was filled with all sorts of array formations and nearly processed all the materials for him.

He had temporarily refused Suyu's request because he had arrived at a critical moment in transforming the fifth grade divine runic symbol.

Before the treasure fair started, Lin Ming planned to select two types of fifth grade divine runic symbols and complete revisions of them.

Of these two types of divine runic symbols, the first one he chose was called the Heavenly Fire Symbol.

The Heavenly Fire Symbol could be called an improved version of the Havoc Flame Symbol.

Because Lin Ming already had experience transforming the Havoc Flame Symbol, it wasn't too much work to transform the Heavenly Fire Symbol.

As for the second divine runic symbol, that was a true test of Lin Ming's ability.

This was a peak fifth grade divine runic symbol!

With Lin Ming's current level of skill, wanting to transform a peak fifth grade divine runic symbol wasn't realistic at all. But, this fifth grade divine runic symbol seemed as if it were especially created for Lin Ming alone.

Its name was the Extreme Dual Polarity Symbol.

The word Extreme meant to bring things to the absolute extreme. The words Dual Polarity meant that this divine runic symbol was able to display the powers of two different elements to their

extreme limits. And, these two elements were the thunder and flame elements that Lin Ming specialized in!

The Extreme Dual Polarity Symbol was a dreadfully dangerous offensive divine runic symbol. Out of all the known fifth grade divine runic symbols, the Extreme Dual Polarity Symbol's power and performance could be ranked in the top three. It even surpassed many sixth grade divine runic symbols!

Thus, if one could successfully draw up a single Extreme Dual Polarity Symbol, its value would be enormous.

However, the Extreme Dual Polarity Symbol actually had many limitations.

The difficulty of drawing one up was extremely high. The powers of thunder and fire were violent and tyrannical to the extreme. Wanting to fuse these two types of powers together into a symbol paper wasn't easy at all. If there was a single error, it was possible that the entire mess could explode.

Even a peak fifth grade divine runic master had to be utterly cautious in drawing up an Extreme Dual Polarity Symbol. Failure meant losing all of the invested materials and having blown up array formations. It was even possible to be injured in the process.

The original structure of this divine runic symbol wasn't perfect to begin with. To make revisions and improve the Extreme Dual Polarity Symbol... the difficulty of this could be imagined!

At this time, all sorts of array formations began to activate in the divine runic room.

Lin Ming stood within these array formations, all of his concentration focused on a beautiful red and purple symbol that floated three feet in front of him.

The tiny runes each contained a horrifying strength. If there was even a single mistake in the structure of the tiny runes, the consequences would be incredibly severe!

It had to be known that if one broke any array formations in this room, all damages had to be paid by the divine runic master who rented it.

Because of this, many peak divine runic masters didn't dare to draw up an Extreme Dual Polarity Symbol in the center of expensive array formations. This caused the difficulty to be even higher. It was rare to see a perfectly drawn Extreme Dual Polarity Symbol.

Lin Ming closed his eyes in meditation. At this time, behind Lin Ming, the phantom of a divine tree began to slowly appear.

This was the Heretical God Tree within Lin Ming's inner world!

Chapter 1618 – Heretical God Tree Evolution

The Heretical God Tree was a holy ruler of fire and thunder. With the suppression of the Heretical God Tree, the fluctuating thunder and fire runes calmed down, becoming peaceful and without a single sign that they would go out of control.

This ability to control thunder and flame to such a degree was something unique to Lin Ming.

He had cultivated the Fire and Thunder Laws to touch upon the threshold of the seventh level Concept. And, martial artists that trained in fire and thunder were extremely rare to begin with. For someone to reach Lin Ming's current achievements was extremely difficult because he was the only one who possessed the Heretical God Force.

Facing the hundred plus tiny runes formed from thunder and fire, Lin Ming's complexion was earnest. His speed was slow and he would often spend a long time drawing up a single tiny rune, constantly making calculations to find the best drawing method.

Like this, several hours passed as Lin Ming immersed himself in making calculations and a drawing plan.

Lin Ming's forehead was wet with beads of sweat. Even with the support of the Heretical God Tree, it was impossible for him to control these 100 plus tiny runes for 8-10 hours.

He grit his teeth, trudging on. Another two hours passed. After Lin Ming forcefully completed a part of the drawing plan, he had reached his limit; he couldn't continue on.

If an ordinary divine runic master were to encounter this situation then they would find it hard to process the remainders of the divine runic symbol that floated in the air. If they were to handle them incorrectly then they might even blow up. But to Lin Ming this wasn't a problem at all.

With a simple thought, the 100 plus tiny runes vanished like fireflies scattering in the night. They flew towards the Heretical God Tree and all of that power of thunder and fire was absorbed by it.

Within several breaths of time, all of the energy had dissipated.

The moment the drawing process ended, Lin Ming slumped onto a stone bench, completely exhausted. This high-intensity deduction process was a tremendous test on his endurance and skill as a divine runic master, and the taste of overdrawing his soul force constantly didn't feel that great either.

After swallowing down some pills, Lin Ming began to meditate.

For these days, Lin Ming's life repeated like this. Every day he would draw and calculate until he exhausted his soul force, and after his soul force was restored he would resume the process.

He had bought a large amount of materials before this and constantly burnt through them. The dregs of these materials were sprinkled around the room. Even the jade slips he used for calculations were randomly piled around.

In this state, Lin Ming had nearly been driven to dark obsession. He completely immersed himself in the Asura Heavenly Dao and the world of divine runic arts, not knowing day or night.

Unknowingly and unwittingly, three months passed. The deadline for the treasure fair approached closer and closer.

As for Lin Ming, he was just a tiny bit away from completing the revisions to the Extreme Dual Polarity Symbol. Even though he squeezed out all of his potential he still wasn't able to complete his work.

It was already late at night. In the dark divine runic room, the light of the array formations radiated outward, dazzling. Lin Ming stood before the divine runic table, all of his focus concentrated on drawing up an Extreme Dual Polarity Symbol.

Lin Ming's eyes were bloodshot and even his fingers trembled. However, as he drew up the tiny runes in the air, his actions remained as stable and accurate as before.

He had already drawn up 763 tiny runes. The structure of these runes could be called perfect!

However, as he drew up the 764th tiny rune, Lin Ming could feel the energy control of thunder and fire go out of equilibrium. He knew that changing a fifth grade divine runic symbol was as difficult as ascending to the heavens, and any changes in the equilibrium of the tiny runes would accumulate until the entire rune structure collapsed.

As a result, Lin Ming tirelessly chased after this point. He had continued this for three days.

In these three days, Lin Ming constantly squeezed out his potential. The burden on his body and soul was immense.

To be more accurate, ever since Lin Ming returned to Divine Rune City, he had spent almost all of his time in such a state.

A divine runic master was a noble and distinguished occupation. Although there were some divine runic masters that would appear tired because they were drawing up a divine runic symbol, there were very few divine runic masters who would push themselves to their limits like Lin Ming did. Divine runic masters were used to a high-brow lifestyle and their work was often relaxed. In their eyes, what Lin Ming was doing would seem far too crazy.

“Just a little bit left...”

Lin Ming had already tried drawing up these 764 tiny runes several dozen times, but he still hadn't been able to successfully draw the complete plan. And each attempt used up a great deal of Lin Ming's soul force.

In doing so, his soul force had been nearly emptied.

“This is my limit...”

Lin Ming took a deep breath. In his vision, even these 700 plus tiny runes seemed a bit blurry.

As he spoke, the energy structure had already become unstable. If this continued then the energy structure would collapse and possibly explode.

“Did I make a mistake in the structure that I deduced?”

This thought flashed through Lin Ming’s mind and a deep sense of frustration filled his heart. With his current level of skill and cultivation, it was abnormally difficult to transform the Extreme Dual Polarity Symbol to begin with. Even if Lin Ming had an enormous advantage over others, he still wasn’t an exception.

With his soul force and mentality having reached the limit, Lin Ming wasn’t able to continue any longer. He dispersed the tiny runes that he had worked so hard to draw up and then let them fly into the Heretical God Tree.

In these months, Lin Ming had attempted to draw up the Extreme Dual Polarity Symbol countless times. And all of the failed attempts had been absorbed by the Heretical God Tree.

Although these divine runic symbols had been failures, they were still drawn up using rare and precious materials. These materials were related to thunder and fire and often formed from the essence of flame and thunder in the world.

If Lin Ming were to convert all the materials he used into points, it would be in the tens of millions. For a fifth grade divine runic symbol, this cost was ridiculously exaggerated.

If he continued to consume materials like this, it wouldn’t be long before the cost of materials surpassed a hundred million.

It was now, when all the energy essence had been absorbed by the Heretical God Tree and Lin Ming was planning to meditate to restore his soul force that something startling occurred.

Within Lin Ming’s inner world, the Heretical God Tree had

absorbed the thunder and fire essences of countless failed Extreme Dual Polarity Symbols, and now, it was finally beginning to grow once more!

“...This is!”

Lin Ming’s mind shook. Because of the sudden change in the Heretical God Tree, a great deal of his fatigue had vanished.

He watched as the Heretical God Tree absorbed the incomparably pure power of thunder and fire, and then began to extend its branches and leaves.

In comparison to the previous evolutions of the Heretical God Tree, it didn’t grow much. However, atop the crown of the tree, many strange lines began to appear.

Lin Ming could see that these lines were dao patterns formed from the Great Dao Laws.

The Heretical God Tree was originally able to absorb the Thunder and Fire Laws. Now, the Fire and Thunder Laws that the Heretical God Tree absorbed were carved within it. And, these Laws faintly manifested the Asura Heavenly Dao!

“This is...”

Lin Ming sucked in a breath of cold air.

The Heretical God Force was an incredibly marvelous cultivation method. At the beginning stages of this cultivation method, one would form a Heretical God Seed.

This Heretical God Seed didn’t have a set path for growth. Depending on the different types of energies and Laws that were used to water it, it would grow into a completely different type of Heretical God Tree!

Lin Ming’s Heretical God Tree contained many Fire Elementals and Thunder Sources, as well as the destructive flames and heavenly judgment lightning of nine layered tribulation and even

Xiao Moxian's nirvanic flames.

With all of this gathered together, Lin Ming had now unknowingly poured in the Asura Heavenly Dao through the tiny runes of the Extreme Dual Polarity Symbol, causing the Asura Heavenly Dao to manifest in the Heretical God Tree and evolve once more.

It had already been a long time since the Heretical God Tree last evolved.

During this period of time, as Lin Ming's strength increased, the Heretical God Tree had absorbed far too much strength. With the Extreme Dual Polarity Symbol added on top of that, it finally succeeded in evolving.

The Heretical God Force was a cultivation method that had followed Lin Ming since the start of his road of martial arts. Although it couldn't be called the strongest of all of Lin Ming's abilities, it was the one he had reached the highest boundary in and was also the one from which he could bring out the greatest effects.

Up until this now, the Heretical God Force had already saved Lin Ming's life at numerous critical junctures. Even many of Lin Ming's current attacks were based upon the Heretical God Force.

Now, this current evolution of the Heretical God Force caused Lin Ming to perk up and be inspired.

After he ate a soul recovery pill he sat in meditation for a short four hours. Then, he took out a variety of materials from his spatial ring and began to challenge the drawing plan of the Extreme Dual Polarity Symbol once more.

When a person was madly obsessed with a matter, they would display a horrifying tenacity.

At this time, when Lin Ming had drawn up the 764th tiny rune, he happily discovered to his surprise that because of the changes in

the Heretical God Tree, the energy structure that was originally difficult to control became much more malleable and fluid. Although it hadn't reached perfection, Lin Ming was confident that in the next several days he would be able to overcome the greatest hurdle in transforming the Extreme Dual Polarity Symbol.

At that time, he would be able to perfectly revise the Extreme Dual Polarity Symbol!

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As the treasure fair approached, Divine Rune City became increasingly lively with every passing day. A massive amount of martial artists flocked towards Divine Rune City from all directions.

Divine Rune City's treasure fair was famed throughout the entire inner Asura Road. It could be called one of the top three ranked great trade meetings of the whole inner Asura Road.

Whenever this time approached, all the treasures from the inner Asura Road would be gathered and all the elites would converge.

As for Divine Rune City, they would also lower the city entrance standards. They would no longer look at talent or whether or not one was a divine runic master. Rather, as long as one had sufficient wealth or treasures, they could enter Divine Rune City.

As for the previous rule that disallowed saints from entering, this would also be cancelled during the period of the treasure fair. Divine Rune City would not harm their own benefits just because of the Extreme Star Holy Lands' war. And even if there were saint spies that entered, it would be impossible for them to cause a ruckus in this treasure fair where masters were around every corner. It had to be known that in this treasure fair, even Emphyreans would appear to buy the things they wanted.

At this time, there was still a month until the treasure fair. Every inn within Divine Rune City was already filled to the brim. Some

of the more luxurious inns would have a cost of over 10,000 origin energy runes a night, and one might not be able to rent these rooms even if they had money.

Many were forced to bring out their own dwellings and live on the outskirts of Divine Rune City.

During the treasure fair, being able to live in Divine Rune City was a sign of status. Without status, one wouldn't even have the chance to rent a room.

Chapter 1619 – Treasure Fair

Divine Rune City's treasure fair was held by a business directly subordinate to the Divine Runic Masters Guild, the Runic Pill Trade Association.

Although the Runic Pill Trade Association's reputation wasn't too obvious, the truth was that the material warehouses of the Divine Runic Masters guild, the cashing in of contribution points, and many other shops and industries affiliated with the Divine Runic Masters Guild were all managed by the Runic Pill Trading Organization.

The term Runic Pill came from the divine runic arts and the pill refining alchemy arts. In Divine Rune City, the divine runic arts and alchemy came hand in hand.

The Divine Runic Masters Guild established the Runic Pill Trading Organization in order to govern their vast fortune and innumerable assets. After all, when it came to business affairs, they needed people who were proficient in that aspect. Divine runic masters generally didn't have the time nor ability to manage such massive amounts of wealth.

As the treasure fair was readying to go into full swing, in a seventh grade divine runic room at the Divine Runic Masters Guild, an exhausted Lin Ming was slumped down in front of a table. His face was pallid and streaming sweat and he seemed completely drained.

But at this time, a burning excitement was shining in his eyes.

A moment ago he had just completed the improved Extreme Dual Polarity Symbol! This also signaled the first time he completed an Extreme Dual Polarity Symbol.

This improved version had a new name, a highly fitting one that was also very tyrannical – the Heretical God Symbol!

The reason it was called this name was because Lin Ming had successfully improved the Extreme Dual Polarity Symbol and he had relied entirely upon the Heretical God Tree's ability to control fire and thunder energies to do so.

The successes of the Heretical God Symbol left Lin Ming feeling a deep sense of accomplishment and satisfaction.

This was something he had used over half a year of painstaking efforts to complete. Only then did he succeed in creating this masterpiece of his. This improved divine runic symbol was the manifestation of Lin Ming's highest level of divine runic arts!

Even for a long time in the future, even if Lin Ming truly stepped into the realm of a sixth grade divine runic master he would find it hard to surpass today's accomplishments.

Thinking about the entire creation process of the Heretical God Symbol, Lin Ming felt a stirring feeling in his heart. The reason he was able to succeed was entirely because of some coincidental lucky chances in addition to the evolution of the Heretical God Tree. If he had to turn back time and repeat this process over again, he might not necessarily succeed.

Picking up the completed Heretical God Symbol, Lin Ming took a pen and wrote the 'Lin' character on the bottom right corner.

This was Lin Ming's brand.

Besides the Heretical God Symbol, Lin Ming also drew up the improved version of the Heavenly Fire Symbol.

The various properties of the Heavenly Fire Symbol couldn't be considered as outstanding amongst fifth grade divine runic symbols. Moreover, as with the improved version of the Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol, Lin Ming found it much easier to revise because he knew the supporting theoretical basis behind it.

At the bottom right corner of the Heavenly Fire Symbol, Lin Ming also wrote his surname.

At this time, there was a knock on the door. The one who arrived was Xiao Moxian.

Today, Lin Ming decided to take a brief vacation. He made a plan with Xiao Moxian beforehand to go to the treasure fair and take a stroll through it.

Of course, this was also to pave the way for the treasure fair half a month from now.

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In these past days, using the words lively or bustling wasn't enough to describe the atmosphere of Divine Rune City.

On the streets there were Divine Lords and Holy Lords everywhere. Many of these people hid their cultivation so it was unwise to offend anyone. There were even Great World Kings and half-step Emphyreans mingling amongst the crowds.

During the treasure fair, although the greatest auctions would come at the finale of the event, there were still many people trying to drum up interest in their own treasures, thus they participated in the treasure fair from the beginning.

They would display their treasures to attract buyers at the treasure fair. Then when the time for the auction came, they could sell for a good price.

There were even many things that were sold during the treasure fair.

Lin Ming had a specific goal – that was to find dragon saliva grass and a jade dragon horn. As for a heaven devouring snake gallbladder and a primal jade quintessence, those could be found within the Divine Runic Masters Guild's warehouses.

Originally, with Lin Ming's qualifications he didn't have the authority to purchase such precious materials. But, his performance this past year was far too eye-catching. Within the entire Divine Runic Masters Guild there was no one that didn't

know of Lin Ming. This caused his status to be incomparable to what it was before.

In addition, Lin Ming contributed all of the ultimate final divine runic art techniques he obtained from Torchriver and the other two divine runic masters' memories and completely handed them over to the Divine Runic Masters Guild. Through these techniques he was able to obtain the right to purchase the heaven devouring snake gallbladder and primal jade quintessence.

Walking through Divine Rune City, Lin Ming could feel the light being blocked out. Looking up, he saw a massive round structure floating high in the skies. This structure was a hundred miles wide! It was incomparably massive as it floated in the skies of Divine Rune City!

This building was built entirely with special obsidian. Beneath the bright sunlight it sparkled with an intense black light. This was a massive floating castle!

From far away, Lin Ming could see many martial artists passing in and out of this giant castle. They were like little bees flying in and out of a nest.

This giant floating castle was the listed address where the Divine Runic Masters guild held the treasure fair.

Divine Rune City was a city where the roads were already paved with gold. Every inch of land was developed and it was impossible to accommodate too many extra people.

Thus, holding the treasure fair in the skies was the most appropriate solution.

Lin Ming and Xiao Moxian flew up towards the floating castle.

After flying through the front gates, even though Lin Ming had been prepared he was still shocked by the scene occurring before him.

A hundred mile wide space was easily spoken, but the truth was

that it was similar to a mortal city in size. A mortal city a few dozen miles wide was already considered large, but for a hundred mile wide city, one couldn't even see the mountains from one side to the other.

This sort of hundred mile wide floating castle had an incomparably broad space within it, as if it were a separate world!

At this time, there was a massive channel in front of Lin Ming. This channel was enough to accommodate hundreds of flying individuals.

And both sides of this giant channel were packed with shops!

Every shop was the size of a palace. Their front gates were wide open as they faced the channel. Looking from afar, this place really did resemble the honeycomb structure of a beehive!

Many martial artists flew through this channel, stopping by any shops that they were interested in.

During this treasure fair, the cost to rent a space in this floating castle was astronomically high. Anyone that could afford it was a major seller.

As for those that couldn't afford a shop, they also had a space. That was the giant market squares within.

The market squares within the floating castle were ten miles long and wide. They could easily hold 100,000 stalls.

"This is quite the grand event." Lin Ming praised.

Xiao Moxian faintly smiled. "Indeed. The Asura Road may be smaller than the Divine Realm, but in terms of liveliness and number of masters, I fear that it is far superior."

Within Demondawn Heavenly Palace, Xiao Moxian had seen many great scenes before. But to hold such an event where so many Divine Lords, Holy Lords, and World Kings converged, all of them bringing out treasures to sell, this was a scene that

Demondawn Heavenly Palace wasn't able to compare to.

“Young master, come and take a look at our clothes! Not only are they artistically crafted but they are also practical. Let that pretty lady beside you try one on and I'm sure her beauty will capture you!”

Lin Ming suddenly heard a sweet womanly voice sound out in his ears as he was speaking to Xiao Moxian.

Lin Ming turned his head. At some point, he and Xiao Moxian had unknowingly approached a clothing shop.

This shop had all sorts of robes and vestments on display. The worst of these were all medium-grade spirit artifacts.

If Lin Ming were back to the time when he bought the Boundless World Pill, these enhanced vestments would all be luxury items. But now, Lin Ming's strength surpassed that of an ordinary World King and his wealth was countless times greater than that of an World King of the Divine Realm. Currently, buying a medium-grade spirit artifact vestment wouldn't be anything at all.

“Do you have anything of a higher quality?”

Lin Ming wasn't interested in these magic clothes but he remembered that he had never gifted Xiao Moxian anything. Although Lin Ming didn't really care much for the quality of the clothes that this shop sold, the clothes themselves were actually quite artistic and beautiful. If Xiao Moxian were to wear them they would definitely look beautiful on her.

“Of course.”

Seeing Lin Ming open his pockets in such an extravagant manner, the saleswoman was even more attentive to him. She quickly brought out several of her shop's best articles of clothing and Xiao Moxian chose one of them with a bright smile. To the current Lin Ming, 80,000 contribution points was nothing but a light drizzle.

Xiao Moxian happily went to try on the clothes. To her, although these clothes were quite good looking, the most important thing was that Lin Ming was buying them for her.

“Miss, I would like to ask you something. There are several rare and precious materials I want to buy at this treasure fair. Where would I be able to find them?” Lin Ming borrowed this opportunity while he was buying clothes to ask where the rare and precious materials were located in the treasure fair. He didn’t want to randomly wander about without aim.

“Rare and precious materials? How rare and precious?” The saleswoman enchantingly smiled. Lin Ming’s generosity had her treating him with a great deal of respect and joy.

“In contribution points, 10 million and above.”

Lin Ming didn’t want to sound too shocking thus he only said 10 million. But in truth, the materials he wanted to buy were in the hundreds of millions.

Even so, the young saleswoman covered her mouth in surprise. 10 million contribution points! Even some poorer World Kings only had around 20 million or so points of wealth.

And this young man in front of her wanted to buy materials that were 10 million points or above. Really, people couldn’t be judged by their appearances.

“Those types of precious valuables are all exhibited in the central VIP hall of the castle. Some things are even in the hundreds of millions of points. But to enter the VIP hall, you’ll need VIP status or at least 50 million points...”

The young saleswoman looked at Lin Ming with awe and gave him a map of the floating castle.

“Thank you.”

Lin Ming glanced through this map. There was an extremely detailed explanation of every area and it was highly helpful to Lin

Ming. After leaving the shop, he and Xiao Moxian flew to the central VIP hall.

The entire VIP hall was made with timeless god stones. Lin Ming showed a jade slip with at least 50 million contribution points and smoothly entered.

As soon as he entered the VIP hall, everything became completely different.

The VIP hall lacked the ruckus from outside and there weren't as many people. Within the entire hall, a rich medicinal fragrance wafted about; this was the fragrance of the heavenly materials everywhere.

Lin Ming took a deep breath. He had high accomplishments in alchemy and immediately ascertained that the pills which could release such a smell would sell for at least 50 million.

This filled Lin Ming with anticipation as he entered the VIP hall. Here, perhaps he really could find the dragon saliva grass and jade dragon horn he needed.

Chapter 1620 – Divine Void Duke

“Sir, may I ask how I can help you?”

After Lin Ming and Xiao Moxian entered the VIP hall, a beautiful maid welcomed them. The treatment within the VIP hall was completely different from the outside.

“I want a list of the treasures in the VIP hall.”

Lin Ming glanced at the maid. The maids in the VIP hall all wore uniforms and they had the emblem of the Runic Pill Trading Company embroidered on their chests.

Soon after, the maid handed a jade slip to Lin Ming. Just as Lin Ming was about to search through it, his heart chilled. In that moment he had felt someone’s sense pass swiftly and gently over him.

This sense was decidedly covert. If it wasn’t for Lin Ming’s powerful soul force then he wouldn’t have noticed it.

Lin Ming frowned. Just who was investigating him?

That brief sense just now was icy cold, as if it harbored dark intentions.

Lin Ming held the jade slip and quietly swept his sense outwards, probing the crowd in the hall. But, he wasn’t able to determine where this sense had come from.

This caused Lin Ming to be increasingly wary. This meant the person’s strength was even above his!

“If this person is so strong, could they be a Great World King?”

Lin Ming was left puzzled. He had lived in seclusion within the Blue Moon Sect for over 20 years, only studying the divine runic arts and alchemy. After he left he went to Divine Rune City where he painstakingly researched for over a year.

During this time period, Lin Ming didn’t think that he had

provoked any enemies. As for his previous enemies, Tian Mingzi and Naqi had already been killed by him. As for Heaven's Net, they shouldn't have any reason to keep focusing on him after 20 years of not doing anything. Moreover, if they wanted to do anything to him they would have to heavily weigh the consequences.

Lin Ming felt that there shouldn't be anyone focusing on him, so how come there was someone locking onto him as he was buying materials?

“Brother Lin, what is it?”

Xiao Moxian asked. She discovered that there was something unusual with Lin Ming.

“Nothing, there's just someone snooping on me and their boundary is very high.” Lin Ming said, keeping an eye out for anyone strange, “But there's no need to worry about this person. As long as we're in Divine Rune City there's nothing he can do against us. We just need to pay a little attention to this and we'll be fine. This person will jump out on their own volition sooner or later.”

As Lin Ming spoke, his eyes brightened. Because of that unfriendly sense he hadn't paid much attention to the jade slip. But now that he looked at it again, there were several things listed that caught his interest.

Among these items was a top spirit treasure called a Dragon Contract, and the material used to refine this spirit treasure was the jade dragon horn that Lin Ming needed!

“A hundred million year Jade Dragon and the blood marrow within the dragon horn is completely preserved, that's extremely rare! Unfortunately it was already refined into a spirit treasure so it is far more expensive than the original materials. Even so, I must buy it. This type of rare and precious material can only be found through a stroke of fate.”

Lin Ming only wanted to take the jade dragon horn for alchemy. As for the spirit treasure, he would need to discard it no matter how good it was. It was truly a pity.

“It looks like the 2 billion contribution points I’ve gathered won’t be enough... there are many things on this list that I need. At that time, if I spend all my points on materials and miss out on all the other good things, that would be too unfortunate...”

Lin Ming made a quick calculation. The 2 billion points he gathered suddenly wasn’t enough.

He lacked too many contribution points!

“Xian’er, let’s see what quality that jade dragon horn is like.”

“Okay!” Xiao Moxian said. Like this, the two of them walked towards the exhibition of the Dragon Contract.

And as Lin Ming walked away, not too far from them there was a VIP rest room, covered with intricate array formations that isolated all sense.

The stylized floor was covered with fur rugs made from ancient vicious beasts. There was a tea table placed atop the rugs and this tea table was surrounded by several men and women, all of them slowly sipping tea.

A beautiful maid knelt on the rug, pouring tea for those present. Her tea skills were intricate and beautiful.

“I just bought some dark rain flower tea at this treasure fair. 100,000 points for one tael. Dark rain flowers can only be picked once every 10,000 years, and only after being cooked together with 72 different kinds of heavenly materials can this type of top grade dark rain flower tea be made. This tea is wonderful. The points spent weren’t wasted at all.”

The one who spoke was a blue-clothed man. He was dressed ordinarily and looked like a mortal scholar. His cultivation was obscured and it was difficult to see his depths.

And sitting beside him were several young men and women. These people all wore top grade vestments and golden crowns. Their foundations were solid and their looks were outstanding; it was clear they were elites among elites, and even so these people clearly looked towards the blue-clothed man with respect.

Around the tea table, besides the several young men and women, there was also an old man wrapped in a black cloak. His entire body exuded a grim atmosphere and he seemed profoundly mysterious.

“Old Shadow, what is it... you seemed to have something on your mind...” The blue-clothed man looked at the black-cloaked old man, smiling as he spoke. “This is wonderful tea, it will cool soon...”

“It’s nothing. I just saw someone I’m not too happy about...” The black-cloaked man grimly said. Although his face was cloaked in darkness, one could still see a pair of sharp eyes like those of an eagle.

As the black-cloaked old man spoke, the blue-clothed man’s eyebrows arched up. “What person could make Old Shadow be so unhappy?”

“Hehe...” The black-cloaked old man’s lips twitched and he dismally chuckled. “A young boy who came from who knows where, he was able to create a fourth grade divine runic symbol that could be used multiple times. It’s called the Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol. Duke Fullmoon, you must have heard of this person already.”

“It’s Lin Ming?”

“Right, it’s him!” The black-cloaked old man said, not too willing to mention this name. This person called Duke Fullmoon began to laugh, “Old Shadow, it seems you’ve taken your defeat of copying the Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol to heart. You can be called the number one master amongst dark divine runic masters, but the

reason you failed can't be blamed on yourself. I estimate that it must be an issue with the inheritance of this young man called Lin Ming..."

Duke Fullmoon candidly said. The black-cloaked old man sitting in front of him was Grandmaster Overflow, who had failed to copy the Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol over half a year ago.

Grandmaster Overflow's name was Shadow Overflow. It was just that very few people knew his name.

The treasure fair held by the Divine Runic Masters Guild was one of the grandest events of the inner Asura Road. As a dark divine runic master, Overflow naturally wouldn't miss out on such festivities. He was also counting on this treasure fair to find some rare and precious materials as well as other treasures.

But, the reputation of a dark divine runic master was too sour to the ears. Many orthodox divine runic masters who considered themselves righteous were nearly unable to coexist with dark divine runic masters. As someone who lived in the dark world, if Shadow Overflow wanted to attend the treasure fair he could only hide his status.

"Inheritance..." Shadow Overflow's eyes shined with a cold light. He had also thought of this point before.

Shadow Overflow's feelings towards Lin Ming could be described as utter hate.

Although Lin Ming had never deliberately provoked Shadow Overflow, it was because of Lin Ming's Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbols that Shadow Overflow lost 200 million points in array discs! Not just that, but his reputation had suffered a massive blow!

Now, it had become known in the entire dark divine runic master community that Grandmaster Overflow had lost to a brat in the divine runic arts. This left him even more depressed.

And as representatives of the Divine Runic Masters Guild, those

orthodox divine runic masters all viewed Shadow Overflow as a joke.

How could Shadow Overflow be happy with all of this? All of the unfortunate events that happened to him had been thanks to Lin Ming. Thus, even if Lin Ming hadn't left the Divine Runic Masters Guild for over a year, he had still somehow managed to inexplicably make an enemy.

In these past several months, Shadow Overflow specifically gathered information related to Lin Ming. He was able to see Lin Ming's appearance through a phantom image and thus was able to recognize him.

"Lin Ming... Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol..." Duke Fullmoon stirred his tea with the cup lid, his lips curving up in a grin.

Seeing Duke Fullmoon's expression, Shadow Overflow's thoughts stirred as he guessed something.

"Duke Fullmoon, have you taken a liking to Lin Ming's inheritance?"

"Haha!" Duke Fullmoon laughed out loud. "That's right, this young man called Lin Ming seems to have started studying the divine runic arts not too long ago. He should be in possession of a unique inheritance completely different from what is known today. And, I value this inheritance very much! If Lin Ming was able to improve the Havoc Flame Symbol, it must be because of this inheritance. Old Shadow had never come into contact with Lin Ming's school of technique and thus didn't understand his type of inheritance, so it's natural for you to have failed.

"So, Old Shadow didn't lose to a young man like Lin Ming, but to the mysterious inheritance behind him!"

As Duke Fullmoon said this, Shadow Overflow's complexion became slightly better. After all, he didn't believe that a junior like

Lin Ming could surpass him in attainments of the divine runic arts. If he lost, it had to be because of this strange inheritance.

Duke Fullmoon said, “I suspect that this inheritance Lin Ming studies has a special method that allows divine runic symbols to be used repeatedly. But, Lin Ming has only managed to transform a Havoc Flame Symbol and the value of that isn’t too heaven-defying. No matter how strong a peak fourth grade divine runic symbol is, it is still a fourth grade divine runic symbol.

“For this inheritance to be left in Lin Ming’s hands is too great a waste. But if it were in my hands then I would be able to display its full abilities!”

As Duke Fullmoon spoke, his eyes shined with a dazzling light.

Shadow Overflow cackled, his heart moved to happiness. “Duke Fullmoon is indeed bold. I also wish to obtain this boy’s inheritance, but it seems there is a powerful master standing behind him, thus I haven’t dared to act rashly.”

Hearing this, Duke Fullmoon laughed dismissively, thinking little of it. “His master is just an Empyrean, right? Even a great influence like the Divine Runic Masters Guild or the Extreme Star Holy Lands wouldn’t dare to offend an Empyrean, but for my Divine Void Divine Kingdom, it’s just a little bit of trouble. It’s not considered much at all.”

Duke Fullmoon was fully confident in his words and he had the capital to be confident. Although his strength was only that of a World King, he had the backing of Divine Void Divine Kingdom. And, Divine Void Divine Kingdom was a True Divinity level influence!

In the past, the two greatest peak Empyreans of the spiritus were Divine Mist and Divine Void!

These two peak Empyreans were blood brothers, but afterwards, Divine Mist went missing and Divine Void stepped into the realm

of True Divinity. From that point on, the myth of Divine Void Divine Kingdom was born!

Speaking to here, Duke Fullmoon stood up and said, “We’re leaving. Old Shadow, let’s go and meet this Lin Ming!”

Chapter 1621 – Jade Dragon Horn

With the young maid guiding them, Lin Ming and Xiao Moxian arrived at the center of the flying castle's VIP hall.

The ground here was formed from clear crystal glass. This sort of crystal had no impurities at all. If one didn't reach out to touch it, it would be difficult to even tell it was there.

The crystal glass beneath was empty space. As one walked over the crystal they could see the skies from a hundred thousand feet up in the air. Looking down, one could see the incomparably vast Divine Rune City stretching to the horizon.

From this height, the massive palaces and temples of the city became as small as toys, and the people walking along the streets became smaller than ants.

Walking here, one felt as if they were walking over the entirety of Divine Rune City.

“Sir, the exhibition room over there is the display room for the Dragon Contract spirit treasure. If you wish to enter, you must abide by the trading rules!”

The young maid gave a jade slip to Lin Ming. The jade slip was engraved with the words ‘Treasure Fair Trading Rules’.

Lin Ming swept over the jade slip. There were dozens of rules listed in it. The basics of it were that all trading must be done voluntarily and fairly and once a transaction was made it was permanent. One couldn't buy or sell and then refuse on a whim.

Lin Ming took the jade slip and smiled. He placed 100 contribution points onto the badge on the young maid's chest.

Seeing this, the young maid was ecstatic. This tip was several times a year's wage.

As the girl happily left, Lin Ming stepped into the display room.

This display room for the Dragon Contract was 10 feet wide and long. There were a variety of objects placed within the room.

The most eye-catching of these objects was a dragon carved from white jade placed upon a pedestal in the center of the room. This dragon was carved in an exquisitely lifelike manner, as if it were about to come to life at any moment.

The white jade dragon's claws held a jade box. This jade was surrounded with a number of array formations. With a brief probe, Lin Ming could estimate that the strength of these array formations could even hold back a World King powerhouse.

However, even though these array formations separated Lin Ming from the box, he could still feel that a powerful strength was locked within it. The surging blood vitality coming from it left one's heart racing.

If he wasn't wrong, then this jade box held the Dragon Contract that was refined with a jade dragon horn!

"This grade of treasure is likely an Empyrean spirit treasure... it must be ridiculously expensive!"

Seeing that this jade chest was around a square foot, Lin Ming could guess that this Dragon Contract was a foot long at most.

A true jade dragon horn could be a thousand feet long. But, using some arcane skills, one could shrink it down, concentrating it.

For instance, Lin Ming's Azure Dragon bone had been refined by Mo Riverbliss using a secret technique and turned into dragon bone relics.

As Lin Ming walked into the room, a fat shopkeeper narrowed his eyes and looked at him.

Although Lin Ming was young and his cultivation wasn't too high, the fat shopkeeper wouldn't underestimate him. Anyone that entered the VIP hall could not be looked at with contempt. This was especially true for the youths, because they likely had some

great influence standing behind them.

“Sir, are you interested in the Dragon Contract?”

The fat shopkeeper stood up from his chair, a wide smile on his face. He had a Divine Lord cultivation and was only a guard for this small display room. The treasures here belonged to his master.

“Can you take it out for a look?” Lin Ming asked. His sense was isolated out by the array formations so it was impossible for him to see what was inside.

The fat shopkeeper shook his head. “I am very sorry but the Dragon Contract is sealed in the array formation so that even I cannot take it out. No matter which guest comes, they can only look in from the outside. The true auction will begin a month from now and once it starts, sir will naturally be able to see its true colors.”

“Mm...” Lin Ming nodded. It was reasonable to maintain the mystery around a treasure of this level. “This Dragon Contract is an Empyrean spirit treasure?”

“That’s right. This is a treasure found by my family’s master on a mystic realm venture. During that venture into the mystic realm there were over 10 World Kings participating, but with my family’s master having a great destiny upon his body, he was the one to luckily survive the dangers and obtain this item!” The fat shopkeeper vividly illustrated the origins of the Dragon Contract.

Lin Ming didn’t doubt this. It was normal for a mystic realm with Empyrean spirit treasures to have dozens of World Kings exploring it.

He quietly calculated the price of this Dragon Contract. Although it was worse than the Primordius Gate and Primordius Bell, it wasn’t too far off.

A month later, its auction price would definitely be ridiculous!

Lin Ming increasingly felt that the 2 billion points he had was far

from enough.

In a short month he had to find some way to gain another massive amount of points, otherwise he would be in danger of losing in the auctions he wanted to win.

And these materials could only be found through serendipity.

If he failed this time, he didn't know when he would next have this chance. Lin Ming wasn't able to wait this long.

"Can you reveal the starting price?" Lin Ming asked.

"Well... it hasn't been decided yet, but it should be between 500 million and a billion..."

"Mm, I understand." This price was well within Lin Ming's anticipating. As for the final auction price, he wouldn't be surprised if it was at least double.

"Sir, although the Dragon Contract isn't for sale yet, there are still some items here that you may be interested in. Would you like to take a look at them?"

As the fat shopkeeper spoke he took out many items.

Things that were able to be displayed in the VIP hall naturally weren't ordinary. Lin Ming swept over the items and quickly discovered extremely valuable spirit artifacts and high grade pills.

However, these things didn't draw Lin Ming's attention. What he cared about was a necklace.

Lin Ming had amazing eyesight. At a glance he was able to see that there was a divine runic symbol on this necklace.

Lin Ming had inherited Torchriver and the others' memories so he had a deep understanding of the different types of divine runic symbols. He was able to recognize that this was a peak sixth grade divine runic symbol, one that even approached the seventh grade – it was called the Heart Spirit Symbol.

Its function was to use the necklace to remember a person's soul

aura. Then, the master of this necklace could use the necklace to communicate with that person. As long as they were in the same universe, even if they were separated by 10 quadrillion miles the necklace with the Heart Spirit Symbol would still be able to send a message! This was something that no sound transmitting talisman could compare with.

Although the Heart Spirit Symbol was a peak sixth grade divine runic symbol, it only had the single function of facilitating communication and this was limited to only two people. Thus, the effects weren't as great as those of other peak sixth grade divine runic symbols. Moreover, a great deal of rare and precious materials were needed to draw it and the cost was astronomical, so very few divine runic masters drew one.

Still, there would occasionally be a divine runic master that would spend a great deal of effort to draw up this divine runic symbol. This was mostly when there was a special need for it. For instance, to protect certain important individuals. As long as two people were in the same realm, regardless of where they were they could instantly locate the other person.

Lin Ming was skilled, but he had yet to truly step into the boundary of a sixth grade divine runic master so it was impossible for him to draw up a Heart Spirit Symbol.

Even Torchriver and the others wouldn't draw up a Heart Spirit Symbol.

But, this necklace was actually useful to Lin Ming.

He planned to buy it and gift it to Xiao Moxian. If so, he could communicate with her at any time and know what her current situation was. This would be tremendously useful for the final trial.

If Lin Ming passed the final trial and was able to bring the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws back to the Divine Realm, this necklace would still be able to be used. At that time, Lin Ming could also know

what Xiao Moxian's circumstances were in Demondawn Heavenly Palace. Otherwise, he would be endlessly worried that Empyrean Demondawn would find some clue about him on Xiao Moxian and keep her under house arrest.

“This necklace, how much is it?”

“Sir has great eyes. This necklace is called the Thousand Mile Heartlink. It is the best gift to give one's lover. At any time, anywhere, you will be able to contact them. The price is 30 million points.”

The fat shopkeeper said, looking at Xiao Moxian with flattering eyes.

Xiao Moxian wrinkled her nose. “This is too expensive. 30 million to buy a necklace for communication?”

Still, Lin Ming remembered the Treasure Fair Trading Rules that he looked over earlier. One of the rules stated that all items had to be clearly marked with the auction price. In particular, within the VIP hall, all items were price-marked beforehand and the Runic Pill Trading Organization even sent people to specifically verify that these items were accurately priced.

With Lin Ming's experience, he knew that this Thousand Mile Heartlink was indeed worth this price. Although it had a very niche function, the cost to manufacture it was extremely high.

He said, “I'll buy it.”

As Lin Ming spoke, he took out a contribution point jade slip and sent 30 million point runes fluttering out.

“Big Brother Lin, you still have an auction in a month...” Xiao Moxian anxiously pulled on Lin Ming's arm.

“Having another 30 million for the auction won't matter. If I buy this necklace now, it will definitely be useful later.” Lin Ming vaguely said, paying the points.

“Great!” The fat shopkeeper was overjoyed as he saw these 30 million points.

After buying this necklace but before taking it in hand, a voice resounded from behind him. “Thousand Mile Heartlink? That’s a good name. Shopkeeper, forget that transaction. I am interested in that necklace.”

Lin Ming turned around as he heard this voice. He saw four or five men in feathered robes. These robes all appeared similar; it was clear they came from the same influence.

And beside these young men and women was a black-cloaked old man. This old man caught Lin Ming’s attention. From this old man’s body, Lin Ming could feel an icy cold aura.

And this icy cold aura was the same as the one Lin Ming felt when he first entered the VIP hall!

“It was this person? He was spying on me?”

Lin Ming frowned. He simply didn’t have the slightest impression of who this old man was and this should be the first time they met, so why would this person be targeting him?

Hidden in his black cloak, Shadow Overflow darkly smiled as he noticed Lin Ming’s gaze. From beneath his shadowy cloak, one could only make out his old and withered lips, looking extremely bleak.

Chapter 1622 – Suppressing Fullmoon

Seeing the black-cloaked old man and the blue-clothed man appear, Lin Ming had a sudden premonition that these people did not come here for the Thousand Mile Heartlink but for himself.

He quietly watched as the blue-clothed man who looked like an ordinary mortal scholar and the peculiar black-cloaked old man approached.

“Shopkeeper, I heard that you were selling that necklace for 30 million? I will add another 10 million, so how about selling it to me instead?”

As Duke Fullmoon spoke he glanced over at a captivating woman near him. “Junior-apprentice Sister Qing, your birthday is approaching so how about I make a gift of this necklace. If you wear it, I’m sure you’ll be even more beautiful...”

The young woman standing beside Duke Fullmoon was indeed a ravishing beauty, pleasing to the eyes.

Hearing Duke Fullmoon suddenly offer her such a precious gift, her heart skipped a beat. She found this hard to imagine. She was Duke Fullmoon’s lover, yes, but she wasn’t too special amongst his several other lovers. Duke Fullmoon had never given her anything so precious before.

“Really?”

This junior-apprentice sister Qing smiled, pleasantly surprised.

“Of course I’m for real.” Duke Fullmoon traced her cheeks. Then he turned to Lin Ming, a grin on his face.

He hadn’t taken a liking to this necklace; his only goal here was to probe Lin Ming.

If the master behind Lin Ming was a True Divinity and not an Empyrean, then any amount of points would be nothing to Lin

Ming. Although Duke Fullmoon felt that the chances there was a True Divinity master behind Lin Ming were extremely low, he still had to be careful about this. A True Divinity was someone he absolutely could not offend.

Lin Ming frowned, not responding. As for the shopkeeper that was selling the necklace, he froze. He received a commission for selling any item, and the higher he sold it for the more he would make. He certainly hoped to sell a higher-priced necklace to Duke Fullmoon.

And at this time, Junior-apprentice Sister Qing looked at Xiao Moxian with haughty eyes, like the enormous sense of superiority a rich person felt against the poor.

Xiao Moxian only coldly laughed. She looked at Duke Fullmoon and that Junior-apprentice Sister Qing as if she were looking at a flock of bumbling idiots “Wasting another 10 million to compete for something like this, is there any meaning to it? Someone that brags about their money just because they have some great influence standing behind them, I really wonder if these people are fools or just insane.”

Xiao Moxian naturally didn’t know why these people had come over to antagonize Lin Ming. Instead, she simply considered all of them wastrels of their generation.

Duke Fullmoon’s complexion sank. As he listened to Xiao Moxian, he felt an anger he couldn’t voice.

Xiao Moxian turned to Lin Ming and spoke as if it didn’t matter at all. “Big Brother Lin, if he wants to fight for that necklace then let him; I have no interest in it. Someone is selling it for 30 million and he doesn’t think it’s expensive enough so he wants to add another 10 million, what a special fellow he is.”

Xiao Moxian had extremely good eyesight. Looking at the clothes that Duke Fullmoon wore, she was able to approximately judge his net worth. If this was the type of person that came from a large

influence and liked to randomly stir up trouble just because, then there was nothing good that could come from quarrelling with them.

Although Lin Ming was wealthy and he could definitely compete for this Thousand Mile Heartlink, he was stretched for money and couldn't spend it on something as insignificant as this. If he really decided to compete with these people in terms of money then that would truly be silly.

Thus, Xiao Moxian said what she said to comfort Lin Ming and make it easier for him to give up.

Lin Ming knew just what Xiao Moxian was trying to do. He faintly smiled, "If I'm buying something I definitely won't let others take it away. Moreover, this necklace is indeed useful to us."

"Big Brother Lin, what are you..." Xiao Moxian was startled. In her opinion, Lin Ming wasn't irrational like this. Just because they were bitten by a mad dog on the streets didn't mean they should get on the floor and bite back.

"It's fine." Lin Ming waved his hand.

Duke Fullmoon was surprised by these words. He thought that Lin Ming would give up the Thousand Mile Heartlink with Xiao Moxian's urging, but he didn't think that Lin Ming would say these words instead.

"How amusing. Since you're interested, then let's have a little competition. I'll add another 10 million to make it 50 million. What about you?"

Duke Fullmoon looked at Lin Ming with provocation in his eyes.

Lin Ming only smiled and looked to the fat shopkeeper.

At this time, the fat shopkeeper's forehead was dripping with sweat. This was because he was excited but also because he was afraid.

He was someone that barely managed to break into the Divine Lord realm by relying on accumulating to his age as well as using a variety of pills. He was nothing but an old steward that was unlikely to have any more achievements in his life. He was well aware that those guests able to enter the VIP hall all had extraordinary backgrounds. Moreover, he could also feel that although this Lin Ming was dressed ordinarily, he absolutely wasn't ordinary, even for those people here.

With two dragons battling, he didn't want to offend either one of them. But, he also wanted to obtain more advantages, so this made him lean towards the one that offered a higher price.

Seeing Lin Ming look at him, the fat shopkeeper squeezed out a sweaty smile. He said with a dry mouth, "That guest has put forth a bid of 50 million, do you plan on..."

"Plan on what?" Lin Ming asked in return. He pointed towards the contribution points jade slip in the fat shopkeeper's hand. "You seem to have mistaken something here. I offered you 30 million points and you have already accepted. The transaction is complete and the necklace is mine. If anyone is to sell it, then that would be me."

As Lin Ming spoke he placed a jade slip on the table. This jade slip was a copy of the Treasure Fair Trading Rules that the young maid had given him earlier.

Although the dozens of rules listed in the Treasure Fair Trading Rules seemed like nonsense, it was actually quite useful at this time.

These were rules that everyone at the treasure fair had to follow.

Of these rules, one was that all trades had to be done fairly and voluntarily. And there was also one more rule: all transactions were permanent once completed.

And Lin Ming had completed the transaction with the fat

shopkeeper just now.

Lin Ming unhurriedly took out a recording array disc. Before the shopkeeper could respond, Lin Ming recorded the 30 million points that the fat shopkeeper held onto an illusory magic array.

“You...”

The shopkeeper was stunned; he didn’t know how to react.

Duke Fullmoon frowned. “You consider that as having completed the transaction? Although you paid the points you still haven’t taken the necklace. If this is a transaction, isn’t it only half finished?”

“Is that so?” Then, Lin Ming slowly took out two sound transmitting talismans and smiled at Duke Fullmoon and Shadow Overflow. “If you two are targeting me then you must know my status already, right? If you know who I am then you should also know that it won’t be a problem for me to contact several Elders in the Divine Runic Masters Guild. How do you think they will rule on this matter?”

Dragons could not bully local snakes. Within the Divine Runic Masters Guild, Lin Ming could be called an influential person with a number of connections. Although that Old Xue and Old Su seemed like cheeky old fogies who liked to waste their time, for better or worse they were true and blue Elders of the Divine Runic Masters Guild.

Although Old Xue normally tried to tease and take advantage of Lin Ming, when facing outsiders he absolutely wouldn’t shield them. How could he allow himself and his colleagues to be bullied at their own home?

Duke Fullmoon’s complexion became much uglier. He certainly knew of Lin Ming’s fame. Lin Ming was a talented individual that the Divine Runic Masters Guild was carefully raising!

How could someone that could successfully create the improved

Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol be ignored?

“The Treasure Fair Trading Rules state at the front that anyone who dares violate the rules of the treasure fair will lose their trading qualifications, whether they are buyers or sellers. I have no idea who you are and what influence you originate from, but in Divine Rune City you follow the rules of the Divine Runic Masters Guild. If you insist on breaking the rules then according to the rules I must ask you to leave the city.”

Lin Ming’s words were spoken clearly and calmly. But, his words held a momentum that could not be refused. Duke Fullmoon couldn’t find the words to argue back.

As for that fat shopkeeper, his entire face was dripping sweat and he couldn’t help but wipe himself clean. It was like Lin Ming said. If he truly didn’t follow the rules and give the necklace to Lin Ming then he would be asked to leave Divine Rune City. Once that happened, his master would blame him and he definitely would not be able to withstand the punishment.

“Interesting! How interesting!”

Even though Duke Fullmoon knew he had lost in this first confrontation with Lin Ming, the gloomy look on his face still rapidly disappeared and the confident smile appeared once more.

“I’ve underestimated you.”

Although this was a minor matter and Lin Ming’s methods couldn’t be considered too clever, Duke Fullmoon was still a bit more wary of Lin Ming. He had also obtained a copy of the Treasure Fair Trading Rules, and didn’t look over it much because he thought it was a bunch of nonsense.

He never imagined that jade slip with pages of nonsense would be the reason he lost to Lin Ming just now.

All things considered, Lin Ming was more careful than he was. This sort of person, when exploring a mystic realm, could often

find advantages in the environment to overcome their enemy.

Xiao Moxian also never imagined that Lin Ming would have this move. She grinned, revealing a tiny pair of canines. She was originally a proud and arrogant genius and she definitely didn't like having her spotlight be stolen by another woman she considered nothing but a pretty vase.

She smiled with deep satisfaction and said, "Well, if you want to put forth 300 million then I can consider selling this necklace to you."

These words were deliberately spoken by Xiao Moxian to irritate these people.

"300 million... hehe." Duke Fullmoon bleakly laughed. He didn't need this Thousand Mile Heartlink necklace to begin with and he certainly wouldn't give Lin Ming a random 300 million points.

"You seem to be short on money?"

Duke Fullmoon meaningfully looked at Xiao Moxian. From the way Xiao Moxian was afraid that Lin Ming would lose money struggling with him, he could infer that Lin Ming's current economic situation wasn't doing too well.

At this time, Shadow Overflow's sound transmission reached Duke Fullmoon's ears.

Duke Fullmoon's thoughts stirred and he grinned. "So that's how it is. You want to buy this Dragon Contract?"

"What a coincidence. The item I'm looking forwards to the most is also this Dragon Contract. That Thousand Mile Heartlink has a clearly marked price so you used the rules to gain an advantage over me, but this Dragon Contract is to be auctioned fair and square. I want to see at that time just how you'll compete with me!"

Shadow Overflow had been using his sense to spy on Lin Ming from the start, thus he naturally knew Lin Ming wanted to buy the

jade dragon horn.

Chapter 1623 – Target

“Compete with me for the Dragon Contract?” Lin Ming’s heart chilled. Although he appeared to remain calm, his mind was racing as he considered this blue-clothed man’s words.

“Their words and actions... seem to be targeting me, probing me...”

Lin Ming slyly smiled. Within the inner Asura Road, this sort of massive treasure fair that had all sorts of top quality pills, divine runic symbols and Empyrean spirit treasures for sale would attract influences from all over.

At this treasure fair, there were more Divine Lords than dogs, Holy Lords walked everywhere, and there were even a massive number World Kings. Even half-step Empyreans were hidden amongst the crowds. If one were to casually provoke someone, they might end up being someone with a powerful background.

The Dragon Contract refined with the jade dragon horn cost a minimum of 500 million points. This was not a price that the average person could put forth.

And this blue-clothed man and black-cloaked old man had come from nowhere and then signaled that they were going to compete with him for the Dragon Contract; it was clear that their origins were great!

Lin Ming couldn’t help but find this a bit strange. Ever since arriving at the Inner Asura Road he basically didn’t make any enemies. Yet, these two people came from out of nowhere and also originated from a great influence, so just how were they connected?

After sifting through his memories, Lin Ming still couldn’t find a clue as to who they were. So, he simply put this line of thinking to the side.

Lin Ming nonchalantly glanced at the black-cloaked old man. This old man seemed to have a familiar atmosphere to him, the atmosphere of a divine runic master...

Different situations called for different measures. If these people were probing his financial situation, he absolutely could not show the slightest hint of weakness. Otherwise, once these people discovered what his financial bottom line was they would bide their time until the auction began and then make targeted bids against him. This would be extremely disadvantageous for him.

“You also want the Dragon Contract?” Lin Ming’s eyes were indifferent. He lifted his gaze and looked at the blue-clothed man. Although his voice wasn’t loud, it held the tone of inevitable victory.

Duke Fullmoon’s eyes flashed as he welcomed Lin Ming’s gaze. A taunting smile curved up his face. “Yes, there are many things I am interested in at this auction. And of those things I am interested in, there is nothing I cannot obtain.”

Duke Fullmoon’s words were similarly sharp.

Xiao Moxian watched on from the side, her eyes filled with loathing and disgust as she glared at this Duke Fullmoon. To be fair, this duke’s words weren’t too hateful, but the tone in which he spoke and the contempt in his eyes was far too aggravating. If this were the Divine Realm she might have already dug this dog’s eyes out.

But this was the Asura Road and her situation was different to how it used to be. They had no backing here and their wealth was also limited.

Xiao Moxian could only puff out her cheeks and glare at Duke Fullmoon with eyes that could kill.

“See you in a month then.” Lin Ming lightly smiled. His eyes slowly swept over Duke Fullmoon and Shadow Overflow’s faces as

he imprinted them deep in his mind.

In any case, these two people were hostile to him, so remaining a bit vigilant was always good.

After leaving behind these words, Lin Ming took Xiao Moxian's hand and left. The moment he turned, he frowned. This was a bit of a headache... to think that there would actually be competition that appeared. At the time of the treasure fair, he feared that it would be hard to obtain the things he wanted...

Points! He had to earn some more points!

"This smelly brat really has no manners, to think he would dare to take the last word against the Duke. It seems he doesn't know how high the heavens are." Junior-apprentice Sister Qing leaned against Duke Fullmoon's shoulders, sending a disdainful glance at the fading Lin Ming and Xiao Moxian.

"According to what he said, it seems he believes that he'll win against you at the treasure fair."

Duke Fullmoon smiled. "Win against me? They are far from enough!"

In that brief probe just now, although Lin Ming was airtight and didn't reveal anything, Duke Fullmoon's intuition told him that Lin Ming and Xiao Moxian weren't people with deep backgrounds nor were they too wealthy.

The Dragon Contract required over a billion points to win, and that was the bare minimum. That was a massive amount of wealth, and even as a Duke of the Divine Void Divine Kingdom, taking out all of that at once was still painful.

In regards to Lin Ming's words, he hadn't taken them to heart. But, his gaze was a bit sharper. He didn't know why, but the way Lin Ming looked at him and the apathetic disdain in his eyes caused him to not be too happy.

"This brat can endure." Shadow Overflow walked over. His eyes

stared at Lin Ming's departing back, flickering in the dark of his cloak.

“Send some people to keep an eye on him and keep looking up any information on him. It's impossible that he'll be a good little boy and hand over the secrets of his divine runic arts inheritance. We must be prepared.” Duke Fullmoon thoughtfully said.

.....

The air around the grand and splendid Divine Rune City was filled with mysterious fluctuations of energy.

All year long, the only season was a warm spring. Gentle sunlight fell down from skies, falling onto the buildings and creating mottled shadows.

Wandering through the city, Xiao Moxian could feel the warmth of the person hugging her wrap around her. Even though she couldn't be called happy, her earlier anger and worries diluted a great deal.

“Big Brother Lin, those people were just disgusting! I just wanted to take a stroll around the treasure fair... but now even my mood is ruined by them...” Xiao Moxian said, twisting her lips. She hung her head down, nestling into Lin Ming's warm chest, feeling weak and not wanting to leave.

“Just treat them as nothing.” Lin Ming smiled, letting go of the playful and beautiful girl.

Xiao Moxian chuckled and then coldly snorted as she thought of the events again. A faint killing intent rolled off her. “Humph, if this was the Divine Realm I would have already killed them. To dare speak to my Lin Ming like that...”

Lin Ming shrugged. To him, the events of today were only a small interlude. He simply didn't take it to heart.

However, this small event did remind him that there would be many more hardships than he thought if he wanted to obtain the

treasures he wanted from the treasure fair a month from now.

He needed to earn more money! He needed to make more preparations!

After flying straight back to the Divine Runic Masters Guild, Lin Ming strode directly into his seventh grade divine runic room.

Because he had successfully produced the Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol and caused the reputation of the Divine Runic Masters Guild to rise to new heights, his fame was completely different from before. The guards all treated him with respect and didn't stop his movements.

“Mm?”

At the entrance of the seventh grade divine runic room, he could see a familiarly enchanting figure standing there.

Wearing a dress with a plunging neckline, Suya's bombastic figure was outlined in a soul-stirring manner. Her black hair hung down like a waterfall, shining with a gorgeous brilliance in the sunlight. Her collar was lowered to the point of revealing her collarbones and downwards to the deep and snowy valley of her chest.

In addition to the sensual atmosphere that surrounded her, she exhibited a unique charm.

Suya's eyes shined as she saw Lin Ming. She had already been waiting here for some time.

Her eyes glanced over at Xiao Moxian happily walking as she held onto Lin Ming's arm. She didn't know why, but a faint feeling of jealousy appeared in her heart.

But she quickly suppressed this feeling and a welcoming smile appeared on her face. “Sir Lin is indeed burdened with a myriad of affairs every day. I've already been waiting here for you for six hours. I wonder if Sir Lin has any available time; we're in need of another batch of divine runic symbols...”

Before she finished speaking, Lin Ming had already brought Xiao Moxian and rushed past her like a breeze of wind.

He threw back some faint words, “I’m not available for the time being.”

Suya froze in place as she heard the door to the divine runic room open and then slam shut.

She couldn’t help but bitterly smile. What should she do now?

Ever since Lin Ming had finished the first batch of Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbols, the Extreme Star Holy Lands’ dependence on Lin Ming increased with every day. These past days, Lin Ming seemed to be making some big movements within the seventh grade divine runic room. The surging power of divine runic arts within was much stronger than before.

One couldn’t help but think that he was creating a new divine runic symbol. The Extreme Star Holy Lands had already tasted the benefits so they wanted to monopolize these new divine runic symbols if possible. And Suyu was the only person who could probe the situation for them.

But now, Lin Ming hadn’t even given Suyu the chance to speak.

This was the first time that Suyu ever felt powerless and frustrated in front of a man.

“This man...” Suyu looked unwillingly at the tightly shut door of the seventh grade divine runic room. She bit her lips, her thoughts rapidly turning...

To be honest, Lin Ming really wasn’t in the mood to deal with Suyu. The treasure fair was only a month away and his points were far from enough!

If he mass produced divine runic symbols for the Extreme Star Holy Lands, he clearly wouldn’t make enough points in the time he had.

His greatest hope was to invest all of his efforts into the two divine runic symbols he had been researching – the improved Heavenly Fire Symbol and Heretical God Symbol.

These two divine runic symbols were far stronger than the improved Havoc Flame Symbol he first created. He would definitely be able to exchange them for more points.

Upon entering the divine runic room, Lin Ming went into a quasi-enlightened state. His entire being was immersed in recalling the comprehensions of the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws.

In front of him, Xiao Moxian was skillfully bringing out the materials that Lin Ming needed to draw up the improved Heavenly Fire Symbol. Her actions were practiced and familiar as she lined up the mountain of various materials, placing them on the spirit stone table near Lin Ming.

Xiao Moxian had a deep tacit understanding with Lin Ming, nearly reaching a state where their hearts and minds were connected. With just a glance, without needing words, she could accurately make out what he was thinking as if she could read his thoughts.

After the preparation of materials was complete, Lin Ming's eyes flashed with a brilliant light. His hands flew out as a blue spirit root flew into his grip. He began to carefully extract the juices, not even relying too much on the array formations in this room.

Although these seventh grade array formations were astronomically expensive and useful, there were still some crucial materials that needed to be handled by Lin Ming. This was because the requirements for drawing up the Heretical God Symbol were far too high. Even a seventh grade array formation wasn't enough. The only materials that Lin Ming would allow the array formations to process were the ones that weren't important.

Chapter 1624 – Soul Recovery Symbol

Within the divine runic room, the air was hot like boiling magma. The heat manifested in curling crimson red undulations of energy, the temperature so high it left one staggering for breath.

Even the light within this room was twisted like waves due to the high heat.

Even though this was a seventh grade divine runic room with many spells and array formations surrounding it, a massive amount of the power of fire still radiated outside.

And the source of this tremendous power of fire was the discarded pieces of materials scattered over the floor, materials used for the Heavenly Fire Symbol.

Lin Ming was far too exhausted. Even a thin layer of salt had appeared on his eyebrows from the amount of evaporated sweat.

In these past several days he had almost never closed his eyes. The closer the treasure fair was, the more he was forced to seize every second of time available to him. Without the wealth of a powerful influence backing him, he could only rely on himself.

To Lin Ming, the spirit medicines and spirit treasures at the treasure fair were all astronomically expensive!

Soul force continually flowed out from his fingertips, manipulating the divine runic pen as it left traces of light and shadow in space. Using the extracted juice of materials, Lin Ming left behind lines of tiny runes in the void.

Every tiny line left behind a glowing brilliance and emitted a power of fire that wilted the mind.

Every single stroke of the runes required an immaculate level of technical skill. The tiniest deviation would lead to the flame patterns coming into conflict with each other and then exploding.

After Lin Ming absorbed the memories of three divine runic masters, when combined with his profound understanding of the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws as well as his current skill in the divine runic arts, theoretically speaking his chances of failing to successfully draw up a divine runic symbol were extremely low. Moreover, he had also successfully drawn up the improved Heavenly Fire Symbol and Heretical God Symbol before.

But the production of these two divine runic symbols was the pinnacle of Lin Ming's understanding into the theory behind divine runic symbols as well as the peak of his current skill level.

Thus, if he wanted to draw up the improved Heavenly Fire Symbol and Heretical God Symbol once again, every step he did would push him to the limit.

Constantly chasing after his limits was a rapidly tiring matter.

These two divine runic symbols had an extremely high fusion compatibility with the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws. Every tiny stroke of the runes formed a mosaic that was able to combine and shift together to form an exponential number of changes.

The slightest mistake would create damage to the overall structure of tiny runes, possibly even causing an explosion.

This meant that Lin Ming needed to invest every ounce of focus into his work, to concentrate every thought into controlling the divine runic pen.

During a sustained period of high concentration it was easy to consume a massive amount of soul force. If Lin Ming hadn't cultivated Empyrean Divine Mist's soul force cultivation method and had his previous soul force intensity, he would definitely be far too tired to do anything and might have even caused permanent damage to his soul!

In the history of divine runic arts, there were some divine runic masters that in order to draw up a peerlessly powerful and

infinitely marvelous divine runic symbol, would directly consume their mind and soul and die in their divine runic room.

The improved Heavenly Fire Symbol that Lin Ming was drawing, in terms of difficulty and finesse required, was enough to annihilate the mind of a fourth grade divine runic master.

The original Heavenly Fire Symbol had more than 800 flame-based tiny runes combined, and there were countless array formation marks within. But, Lin Ming's improved Heavenly Fire Symbol had over a thousand flame-based tiny runes added within, as well as over 10,000 elaborate array formation marks interspersed throughout. This allowed the Heavenly Fire Symbol to have channels that were able to absorb the power of fire even more smoothly.

These profound changes made the difficulty of drawing up a Heavenly Fire Symbol exponentially greater than before. All of these new additions required Lin Ming to consume an enormous amount of soul force.

There was no need to mention the changes Lin Ming made in the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws. The original Heavenly Fire Symbol had an extremely rough and crude implementation of the Asura Heavenly Dao. Within it, only several rune paths conformed with the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws.

As for Lin Ming's changes, he completely eliminated all previous rune paths that corresponded to the Asura Heavenly Dao, and planted in 108 new rune paths in their place.

These modifications, if seen by other divine runic masters, would truly shock the world. Some lower level divine runic masters would find it impossible to understand.

The consequences of these complex changes were a massive increase in the use of soul force as well as endless and constant calculations during the drawing process.

Even if Lin Ming had successfully produced a Heavenly Fire Symbol once, there would occasionally be a slight deviation in the flame-based runes at the start, finally causing there to be a conflict with the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws that were fused into it.

Finally, a massive fire dragon would blow up from the tiny runes, causing the entire divine runic symbol to be ruined.

If it weren't for Xiao Moxian standing guard on the side and quickly responding, and swallowing the fire dragons with the Darkness Laws, then Lin Ming's eyebrows and most of his hair would have been burnt away.

"3972 flexible array lines, conforming to the right spiral revolution of the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws..." Lin Ming mumbled to himself, all of his concentration focused on the floating lines of flames in the air.

Finally, the long lines of flames were pulled into the top of the Heavenly Fire Symbol.

The entire Heavenly Fire Symbol erupted with a blazing light. The lines of the flame runes rapidly decomposed, gathering onto the tiny runes within and then combining once more...

Another two hours passed.

The reformed flame runes began to fuse with the lines of the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws in the air.

With a brief flash, all of the surging energies vanished at once.

All that was left in Lin Ming's hand was a simple and plain Heavenly Fire Symbol that sparkled with a strange light.

The Heavenly Fire Symbol seemed ordinary and rough, without even the slightest power of fire leaking out.

If other divine runic masters were to see this, they would certainly sing praises to the heavens! To create a Heavenly Fire Symbol that didn't have the slightest bit of energy flowing out, this

required a deeply profound understanding and control of the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws. All of that power of fire needed to be forcefully locked inside.

Pada!

A drop of sweat fell down from the tip of Lin Ming's nose. Before it hit the ground, the drop of sweat was already evaporated by the high heat.

Lin Ming finally opened his eyes, letting out a long breath of relief.

Xiao Moxian smiled like a blooming flower, finally relaxing a little.

"The Heavenly Fire Symbol is finished... do you want to rest a little?" Xiao Moxian's worried eyes looked at Lin Ming.

Lin Ming confidently smiled. He shook his head and said, "No need. I'll be fine after I practice the Divine Mist Heart Mantra."

"You're being too hard on yourself..." Xiao Moxian whispered. But, she knew that once Lin Ming decided to do something it was nearly impossible for anyone else to change his mind.

Moreover, she also knew that he was pressed for time. Every step Lin Ming made was to prepare for the future war with the saint race in the Divine Realm.

Thinking of these future matters, a desolate and sad look passed through her face. Divine Realm... saint race... monster race... to her, this was a knot in her heart that she couldn't undo.

Dong! Dong! Dong!

A knocking sound echoed out from the front door.

"Sir Lin." Sua's dark and sensual voice transmitted from the other side of the door.

Xiao Moxian suddenly frowned deeply, her body immediately straightening up. A faint sense of hostility flashed over her face.

When a beautiful woman met another beautiful woman, it wasn't unlikely for sparks to occur, especially when there was a man involved.

Lin Ming also wrinkled his eyebrows. He didn't like being disturbed by outsiders when he was deep in drawing up divine runic symbols.

"What is it?" Lin Ming coldly asked, patiently holding back his temper.

"The great lord Empyrean of our Extreme Star Holy Lands knows that Sir Lin has been busy with many matters these days and has been working hard on the divine runic arts, so he has bid me send you some Soul Recovery Symbols."

Soul Recovery Symbols?

Lin Ming was startled as he heard this. A Soul Recovery Symbol was an extremely complex divine runic symbol. In order to create one, one needed the special condensed soul crystals of the spiritas and then to add in the Soul Recovery Laws of the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws.

This sort of divine runic symbol was expensive and not too practical. Normally, only divine runic masters near the seventh grade, half-step spiritas Empyreans, or other characters of that level would use these divine runic symbols, because drawing one up required a peak sixth grade divine runic master.

For the current Lin Ming, meditating on the Divine Mist Heart Mantra was a waste of his time. If he had these Soul Recovery Symbols to supplement him then it would really be a useful gift that came at the right time.

As long as this type of supportive divine runic symbol was fused into his body he would be able to rapidly recover his soul force.

Without needing Lin Ming to speak, Xiao Moxian had already opened the front door without reservation.

Her hostility to this seductive temptress Suyu was one matter, but these Soul Recovery Symbols that could help Lin Ming were another.

As long as it was something that could help Lin Ming, she wouldn't refuse it.

As the front door opened, a strange and intoxicating scent rushed in, accompanied with the gentle tinkling of bells.

Suyu's casual dress was provocative enough, but today she was especially dressed up. She wore a long and silky dress that was cut low at the chest, exposing her curvy figure. Her majestic chest was proud and full as a startling amount of snowy white skin was exposed.

Her earrings were made from strange crystals, mysteriously polished so that they exuded a dazzling light. When combined with her pouty looks, every movement of hers exuded a captivating scent.

She carried a plate with both hands that was stacked with divine runic symbols carrying a dark strength.

Slowly stepping into the room, Suyu maintained a trace of a smile. Her star-bright eyes were mesmerizing.

Of course, this brilliant gaze was focused on the improved Heavenly Fire Symbol that Lin Ming just drew up.

Suyu had stayed in the Divine Runic Masters Guild for a long time and experienced many things. As she saw the improved Heavenly Fire Symbol and the complex runes that still floated like rivers of stars in the sky, her eyes shined even brighter. This divine runic symbol was absolutely not simple.

Suyu smiled and then placed the plate of Soul Recovery Symbols in front of Lin Ming. Behind her, Xiao Moxian was running out of patience.

As Xiao Moxian saw Suyu's round and perky bottom from

behind, she couldn't help but feel inexplicably annoyed.

“Miss Suyu, we are currently in the process of researching and developing a new divine runic symbol, so we are a little busy at the moment. We thank you for the favor of sending these Soul Recovery Symbols and we will remember this.” Xiao Moxian was well aware that the goal of Suyu sending Soul Recovery Symbols here was nothing more than an attempt to curry favor with Lin Ming in order to obtain even greater benefits in the future. If Lin Ming wasn't anybody at all, they definitely wouldn't bother with him.

Thus, although Xiao Moxian's words were polite, they had an undertone of seeing a guest out.

Chapter 1625 – The Auctions Begin

Suya wasn't some weakling to be pushed around. She could hear the meaning behind Xiao Moxian's words and tone so she turned to Lin Ming and cast him a winsome smile. "Sir Lin, this is quite embarrassing to ask, but may I ask what divine runic symbol you are researching right now?" As she spoke she bent down and curiously looked at the improved divine runic symbol.

Suya propped her hands against the divine runic table. Her plunging deep neckline originally revealed a deep snow white valley, and after bending down, her large and explosive mountains swayed back and forth like surging pendulums.

Sitting on the other side of the divine runic table, Lin Ming never imagined he would see such a scene. He was slightly surprised as he inevitably got a clear look at Suyu's beautiful scenery. This sort of temptation, if a young divine runic master were to see it, would cause their blood to boil. And even though Lin Ming wasn't too affected he was still momentarily stunned by what he saw.

At this time, Suyu was simply far too close to Lin Ming. As for Lin Ming, he simply had nowhere to look away to. And as he was wondering what he should do, he suddenly noticed a chilling cold rise up. He couldn't help but look at the direction of that icy cold air.

All he saw was Xiao Moxian glaring at Suyu, her entire face covered with black lines, seeming as if she was on the verge of storming out. To attempt to seduce Lin Ming right in front of her, this woman simply didn't place her in her eyes!

As Lin Ming felt Xiao Moxian's burgeoning anger, he coughed loudly and pushed himself away from the divine runic table, quickly retreating. "Miss Suyu, I am indeed trying to revise a divine runic symbol. If there aren't any other matters, I want to try to grasp the time to draw up several more. These Soul Recovery

Symbols have come at the perfect time. I will remember this sentiment.”

Lin Ming was also hinting for his guest to see her way out. It wasn't only because of Xiao Moxian, but also because he really was far too busy.

“Heavenly Fire Symbol? This is a Heavenly Fire Symbol? There isn't any power of fire leaking out!” After entering Lin Ming's divine runic room with great difficulty, Suyu naturally wouldn't leave until she investigated for some information. She couldn't help but gently touch the improved Heavenly Fire Symbol. As she discovered the peculiarities inside, she exclaimed out loud.

In her opinion, every Heavenly Fire Symbol would inevitably have a certain amount of energy flowing out of it. The higher the grade a divine runic master who created the divine runic symbol was, the more complex the rune structure would be, the more exquisite the Law lines, and the less strength that would flow out. This was a manifestation of a divine runic master's ability to control a divine runic symbol.

She had rarely encountered this situation before where there wasn't any energy flowing out from a divine runic symbol. This proved to her that Lin Ming's ability to confine the energy of the divine runes had reached an astonishing degree.

Suyu suppressed her surprise; she had already accomplished her goal for coming here. She faintly smiled at Lin Ming and said, “Sir Lin, then I will not disturb you from drawing up divine runic symbols.”

Then, her eyes narrowed, curving up like crescent moons in the skies, enchanting and alluring. “I would also like to ask Sir Lin to consider our Extreme Star Holy Lands and sell this improved Heavenly Fire Symbol to us in the future. The price can be further discussed.”

Lin Ming thought for a moment. The Extreme Star Holy Lands

could be considered an old customer of his. If he really did sell divine runic symbols, he would have intentions of selling to them. But, he had a special plan for these two divine runic symbols that he was creating now.

“I am not too familiar with producing these divine runic symbols. If I can produce them en masse I will consider you.” Lin Ming didn’t confirm anything as he kept his words ambiguous.

Suya’s eyes shined as she heard this. As long as Lin Ming said this, she would have something to report to the Extreme Star Holy Lands.

The previous batches of Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbols had miraculous and wondrous effects on the battlefield. This caused Suyu to withstand a great deal of pressure from the high level figures of the Extreme Star Holy Lands, making her feel pressed for time.

Now, all she could do was keep track of Lin Ming.

“Then I won’t disturb Sir Lin. If there is anything you need, please inform me. As long as I can accomplish it, I will definitely try to help Sir Lin as much as I can.” Suyu threw one last smile towards Lin Ming. Lin Ming nodded in return. Then, with a twirl of her dress, Suyu turned and left.

It was only that as Suyu passed by Xiao Moxian, her eyes flashed and she raised her proud swan-like neck, her gaze touching upon Xiao Moxian.

Xiao Moxian returned this gaze with eyes that could kill. Her small canines were sharp like a little tiger’s, reflecting an icy cold brightness.

As the two women’s eyes met, an intense electric light sparked in the void.

With a bang, the door closed.

As Suyu’s footsteps gradually faded away, Xiao Moxian slowly

pursed her lips. She shot Lin Ming a look, her complexion still gloomy. She didn't think that Suyu was more beautiful than she was, but Suyu's figure had the flavor of a ripe peach, explosive and bursting from the seams. This was an attribute that Xiao Moxian completely lacked; her figure was more slender and smooth.

"Disgusting woman." Xiao Moxian indignantly sputtered out.

Lin Ming coughed. Without saying anything, he picked up a divine runic pen.

Over the next half month, Lin Ming invested all of his time and focus in producing the improved Heavenly Fire Symbol and the Heretical God Symbol.

These divine runic symbols were far more complex than the previous Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol.

Every time he drew one up he would have to put in seven to eight times the effort of producing a Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol. Moreover, what gave Lin Ming a headache the most was that the failure rate was far too high!

In the first few days the failure rate reached as high as 70-80%. With this rate, Lin Ming could only draw up a single divine runic symbol in one day.

Even half a month later, his failure rate only fell to 50%.

This was also with the batch of Soul Recovery Symbols that Suyu had provided. With their wonderful effects of revitalizing the divine soul, every time Lin Ming felt his soul force on the verge of collapse he would absorb one Soul Recovery Symbol and feel his soul force rapidly restore itself.

Time quickly passed.

In the final two days before the treasure fair began, Lin Ming didn't take a single moment of rest. Every time a Heavenly Fire Symbol failed and exploded, not only would Lin Ming's clothes tear apart but even the nearby strange and amusing Xiao Moxian

would find her face completely blackened with soot. When combined her two white canines, this was an especially entertaining sight.

But in the end, Lin Ming still produced 10 improved Heavenly Fire Symbols and 10 Heretical God Symbols.

In the early morning of the next day, as the sky was bright and the sun was dawning, countless crowds of people had gathered in Divine Rune City.

As Xiao Moxian and Lin Ming left the Divine Runic Masters Guild they were able to see the tides of people flying through the skies, like swarms of locusts!

Only during the period of the treasure fair would Divine Rune City allow martial artists to fly, because the treasure fair was held in the floating castle. Due to this, this miraculous scene could be viewed.

The floating castle was a hundred miles wide and flew high in the air. Even so, the innumerable martial artists surrounding it were like motes of dust!

Although he had barely managed to catch a night of rest, Lin Ming was still feeling the aftereffects of overdrawing his soul force for an entire month. Now that he suddenly left his room, the dazzling sunlight made even Lin Ming feel a bout of dizziness. It took him a moment to adapt to the brilliant dappled sunlight.

“There really is a great deal of people here.” Looking at this scene in front of him, Lin Ming was startled. With so many people it was hard to imagine just how high the volume of trade transactions would be.

Taking Xiao Moxian’s hand, Lin Ming once more flew into the treasure fair in the flying castle. At this time, he suddenly had a strange feeling.

He could clearly feel that as he arrived at the treasure fair, the

entire floating castle rippled with a thick power of divine runic symbols.

These were a type of hidden defensive divine runic symbols that were fused into the spirit stone of the castle. If anyone attacked this castle, these defensive divine runic symbols would erupt with a terrifying defensive barrier.

Rows upon rows of stores were everywhere, with the treasures inside all outstanding. Compared to the last time Lin Ming was here, there were many more good items.

Just by smelling the rich medicinal fragrance in the air, he could tell that there were far more spirit medicines for sale.

However, the sale square which had been there before had been cleared out.

A massive complex hung in the center of it, shaped like an eight-sided honeycomb.

This building was like a miniature sun. it was covered with radiant glowing stones, swallowing up all surrounding shadows and shining with a noon light.

On all eight sides of this honeycomb structure, around every 10 miles, there was a giant massive illusory mirror that showed what was occurring within.

It was clear that this was an auction site. The staff inside were busily bustling about in preparation. However, it was clear from the hourglass that hung above the structure that there was only an hour left until the auction began.

Lin Ming had already received the news. From today forth, the most precious items of the treasure fair would all be sold in the auction.

As for the item shops outside, the things they sold were far from comparable to the heavenly treasures sold in the auction house.

It was inevitable that the jade dragon horn he needed would appear there, and it was even possible that the dragon saliva grass would too. After all, these were materials that top divine runic masters wanted and their price would definitely soar as the divine runic masters fought for them!

As Lin Ming was thinking, he heard a giggle burst out from the entrance.

“Duke Fullmoon also came, haha... the pressure on a little girl like me is far too great. I hope that Duke Fullmoon won’t snatch something from my hands...”

Duke Fullmoon?

This laughter was also quite familiar. Lin Ming couldn’t help but follow these sounds and be surprised as he caught sight of a few familiar faces... how could these people have gathered together?

The few people at the entrance were surrounded by a group of extremely muscular and vigorous guards.

Of the people being guarded, one of them was a tall and graceful woman, a peerless beauty of her generation. She had been the one smiling and laughing – it was Miss Suyu from the Divine Runic Masters Guild.

Beside Miss Suyu was a blue-clothed man, a faintly happy smile on his face. His eyes burned as they occasionally dipped down to her swaying figure before slowly coming back up to her face.

Behind this blue-clothed man was a slow and creeping black-cloaked old man.

The old man’s complexion was gloomy and dark. It was only when Suyu and the blue-clothed man occasionally laughed out loud that the old man would join in with a few terse and hollow laughs. It was hard to tell from his complexion whether he was irritated or not.

The blue-clothed man and the black-cloaked old man were the

two people that Lin Ming bumped into when he last visited the treasure fair.

For them to meet again was also inevitable, because there were many treasures at this auction that the blue-clothed man had to obtain no matter what.

Chapter 1626 – Encounter

From Suyu's words, Lin Ming learned that this blue-clothed man's title was Duke Fullmoon.

With the title 'Duke Fullmoon' in addition to the way Suyu treated this man, it was clear that this person was a high level figure of some Divine Kingdom.

Generally speaking, large influences were separated into nation-type organizations and sect-type organizations.

In a sect, important figures would normally be titled Elders, Protectors, Highest Elders, and so forth. And in a Divine Kingdom, important figures were normally titled Dukes, High Princes, Imperial Scholars, and so forth.

There wasn't much difference between these types of influences to begin with. Everything, including ranking and such, depended on the personal preferences of the founder.

Although this Duke Fullmoon was hiding his cultivation, Lin Ming could faintly feel that he had already reached the World King realm. Even if his cultivation wasn't at the World King realm he likely already had the capital to contend with a World King.

If there was a powerhouse that could battle with a World King in this Divine Kingdom and he was only titled a Duke and not a High Prince, the power of this Divine Kingdom could be imagined!

A spiritus Divine Kingdom... as well as at least a peak Emphyrean influence...

Lin Ming sifted through Torchriver's remnant memories and locked onto some possible Divine Kingdoms. Still, he couldn't confirm which one this other party came from.

"Miss Suyu, I just bought some dark rain flower tea. It is 100,000 points for just one tael. Dark rain flowers can only be picked once every 10,000 years, and only after being cooked together with 72

different kinds of heavenly materials can this type of top grade dark rain flower tea be made. In the upcoming days I plan on holding a martial arts tea party at Carefree Hall. At that time, I wonder if Miss Suyu would be kind enough to grace me with her presence?”

“Martial arts tea party? Dark rain flower tea? Duke Fullmoon is indeed a dauntless man! I, Suyu, would love to attend!” Suyu’s eyes narrowed into crescent moons as if she were truly interested in going. But just as one thought she was about to agree, an embarrassed color actually flashed over her face. With an expression filled with regret she said, “But I apologize, I’ve recently received a mission from Extreme Star Heavenly Palace that I must complete within the Divine Runic Masters Guild. Now that the situation at the warfront has become intense, it is impossible for me to leave my post. I can only regretfully decline Duke Fullmoon’s invitation...”

Like this, Suyu rejected Duke Fullmoon’s invitation without any rudeness at all, and even her explanation was sound. But, Duke Fullmoon still frowned. He had already invited Suyu seven or eight times before to visit his Carefree Hall but he had been turned down by her every time. Not just that, but every time she rejected him she had seemed extremely reasonable and there was nothing that Duke Fullmoon could find fault with.

“This woman, she really doesn’t know how to appreciate favors. She keeps refusing Duke’s request every time!” Beside Duke Fullmoon, the woman called ‘Junior-apprentice Sister Qing’ smirked as she spoke with a sound transmission. Even the eyes she looked at Suyu with were cruel and cutting.

Suyu certainly noticed the hostility emanating from this other woman, but she simply covered her mouth and giggled, as if she wasn’t aware of anything at all.

Suyu was well aware what sort of place the ‘Carefree Hall’ where Duke Fullmoon was planning to hold this so-called martial arts tea

party was; it could be called Duke Fullmoon's harem as well as his personal quarters.

Since ancient times, in the palaces of emperors and great kings, harems forbade other men from entering; the only ones that could enter and leave were eunuchs. A 'martial arts tea party' held in a harem? Wasn't that just a joke? Suyu didn't doubt that when this martial arts tea party occurred, the only ones there would be Duke Fullmoon and his maids and concubines.

And as the honored guest of such an event, once she went to Carefree Hall to participate in this 'martial arts tea party' there was an absolute certainty she would become the main dish of Duke Fullmoon's nightly entertainment. She certainly wouldn't agree to this type of invitation.

Duke Fullmoon rubbed his chin, his eyes once again raking up and down Suyu's explosive body, not seeming surprised or angry at her rejection.

"Duke, what is so good about her? Is her body so overwhelming? In Carefree Palace there are many others that are as equally plentiful of figure, there is nothing they lack..." Seeing Duke Fullmoon so interested in Suyu, Junior-apprentice Sister Qing began to unhappily whine with a sound transmission. In truth, her own body was quite good.

"You don't understand. This sort of enchanting seductress seems as if they will become intimate with anyone, but the truth is that women like her are aloof of all relations and are the most arrogant in their bones. She is a butterfly that can flit around in all social situations and any interest she shows in men is only superficial. As for those that have thoughts of eating her up, it is actually impossible. The more one likes this type of woman, the more difficult they are to conquer, but only by conquering this type of woman can one truly be satisfied!"

For martial artists that lived for thousands of lives, it wasn't

uncommon to have crowds of wives and concubines. Duke Fullmoon was already a veteran in courting women and was a thorough expert in them. He had no interest in women that threw themselves into his chest on their own initiative. Rather, a proud and arrogant woman like Suyu who had her own strength, that was the type of woman he wanted to conquer.

“It’s all about the long game. Sooner or later I’ll taste this woman and have her serve me from the depths of her heart.”

As Duke Fullmoon spoke he smiled confidently. He wanted to change the topic of conversation so that he could slowly infiltrate the mind of this beautiful woman that he planned on conquering in the future.

But at this time, Suyu’s eyes brightened as if something she saw made her overjoyed. As she smiled, her smile was more radiant than peonies in spring.

She turned towards a direction and waved. As she waved her hand, her voluptuous body shook like a branch in the wind, leaving the mind stunned.

“Sir Lin, over here!”

Even though there were layers upon layers of people in the crowd, this didn’t stop Suyu at all. She seemed as if she would forcefully push her way through the crowd to greet someone.

This left Duke Fullmoon startled. He immediately frowned. Who was this Sir Lin? Was there someone here that had a status higher than his own? A background greater than his own?

In Duke Fullmoon’s eyes, anyone that could cause Suyu to impatiently greet them was definitely a character with an extraordinary status!

Hearing Suyu’s distant greetings, Lin Ming could only ruefully smile; he originally didn’t want to bump into this hard to handle Duke Fullmoon.

As for Xiao Moxian, she didn't want Lin Ming to bump into Suyu.

Thus, the two of them came to a tacit agreement that they would take a round detour around the auction hall and pretend as if they didn't see anyone. But, they never imagined that this Suyu would seem to possess something like a telepathic ability; even in the endless crowds she was able to keenly lock onto Lin Ming's presence.

Suyu's voice and sex appeal had a deep penetrative power. As she shouted out loud, her luscious body swaying back and forth as she moved forwards all smiles, Lin Ming instantly became the focus of attention.

"Sir Lin, what a coincidence!" Suyu was excited like a little girl. She stood on her tiptoes, beckoning over Lin Ming as if she were afraid he hadn't seen her.

Such a welcoming Suyu caused Xiao Moxian's bright smile to slowly dim down. Her hand that held Lin Ming's hand mysteriously disappeared and reappeared at his waist, pinching a little of his skin and twisting a bit.

Lin Ming was left speechless. He certainly knew what Xiao Moxian's meaning was. She was warning him not to be too friendly with this woman.

"This is... Miss Suyu, it really is a coincidence." Lin Ming awkwardly coughed.

"That's right, this must be fate!"

Suyu laughed, her smile becoming increasingly happy. And, this smile wasn't the professional smile that often hung on her face, but was a smile that came from her heart.

It was clear that Suyu treated Lin Ming considerably differently.

Seeing Lin Ming as well as the genuine smile coming from Suyu, Duke Fullmoon's previous attitude and self-control of not being angry at being rejected by this beautiful woman suddenly

vanished.

His face immediately turned gloomy.

How could it be this boy again!?

So the so-called Sir Lin was actually Lin Ming!

Just now he had been bragging in front of his concubine that Suyu was the type of woman that was only superficially intimate with others but was in truth a proud and haughty woman that disdained men. As for conquering Suyu, that would be extremely difficult and only someone like himself had this ability.

But in the blink of an eye, Suyu was ridiculously attentive to Lin Ming. She passed through the crowds of people without hesitation to greet him as if she were afraid that Lin Ming would run away if she were a bit slower.

This was simply a slap to Duke Fullmoon's face!

If Suyu were to greet some great person, like an Imperial Prince from a True Divinity level influence, then Duke Fullmoon would be envious but he wouldn't be angry. However, the one she was greeting so excitedly was Lin Ming.

A month ago, Duke Fullmoon had already verified through various intelligence organizations that besides an unknown master that no one had seen before, Lin Ming had no one else supporting him. Otherwise, he wouldn't have had to go to the trouble of running to the Marvel Blue Nation for a body transformation cultivation method.

"This brat has some ability..." A cold light flashed in Duke Fullmoon's eyes. In this brief encounter he had thoroughly lost to Lin Ming.

And at this time, although Suyu was already standing beside Lin Ming, she didn't seem to 'forget' or 'snub' Duke Fullmoon.

Through the crowds of people she said to Duke Fullmoon, "Duke

Fullmoon, Suyu must bid her farewells for now. In the future if the Duke comes again, Suyu will definitely pay a visit.”

Suyu’s words were sufficiently polite. As for paying a visit, who knew if that was possible even in the next tens of millions of years.

Although Suyu knew that this would offend Duke Fullmoon a little, it was clear who was more important between Duke Fullmoon and Lin Ming.

Disregarding that Suyu had a good impression of Lin Ming already, making it easier for her to follow him, Lin Ming’s value alone was already so ridiculously high that Suyu was willing to pay any price to win him over.

Duke Fullmoon came from a large influence but no matter how large that influence was, there was only the slightest thread of relations between them and Suyu. The reason she was polite to Duke Fullmoon to begin with was that she had the thoughts of becoming friends and perhaps making use of him in the future.

Just for this, Duke Fullmoon wanted to trick Suyu into his bed. Regarding this, Suyu could only break down laughing in her heart.

But Lin Ming was completely different. If Lin Ming really had the same plan as Duke Fullmoon then she would find it much more difficult to handle. The slightest mistake and she really would be caught in Lin Ming’s web.

Thinking of this, Suyu felt an inexplicable ripple in her heart, but she quickly cast these bewildering thoughts away. She knew that Lin Ming didn’t have such ideas about her.

She said to Lin Ming, “Sir Lin, are you planning to attend the auction? How about we go together?”

Without needing Lin Ming to respond, Xiao Moxian smiled and said, “No need. We’re fine going by ourselves.”

Although Xiao Moxian was smiling, when her smile was combined with her shiny pair of canines it gave off the feeling that

she could pounce and bite at any moment.

Suya thought little of it. She tactfully said, “That’s also a good idea.”

Although they said to take separate roads, there was only a single path from the entrance to the auction hall. For now, they were temporarily travelling together.

Chapter 1627 – Grand Event

Glowing crystals paved the passageway. Their mystical luster lit up the path to the auction hall with a rainbow of colors, casting the world in enigmatic beauty.

The channel finally came to end. Three crystalline doors appeared in front of everyone, dividing it into three different directions.

Four golden-armored guards with black capes swung over their shoulders guarded the doors behind them.

Although their auras were restrained, Lin Ming could still feel the sea-deep energy of these four.

This aura... is a Holy Lord level character.

After realizing the strength of these four people Lin Ming couldn't help but be amazed. This was the first time he had seen Holy Lord level characters guarding gates. Before now, the highest rank guards he had seen were at the Divine Lord realm.

From this, it could be seen how much the Divine Runic Masters Guild valued this auction.

As Lin Ming was in thought, a middle-aged man approached them and spoke with a pleasant tone. "Three guests, do you plan on entering the auction? Please show your identity cards. Moreover, there are three different tiers of seating available, each with different fees. Please pay the fees for the seating tier you choose and someone will arrive to escort you there."

Regarding the workings of the Divine Runic Masters Guild, Suyu was clearly much more knowledgeable than Lin Ming. She took out a golden Divine Runic Masters Guild status card and quickly passed it over.

This middle-aged man belonged to the Runic Pill Trading Organization and he had never seen Suyu before. But, he knew that

Suya existed in the Divine Runic Masters Guild. After checking this card, his attitude towards her was much more respectful. He didn't think that this beautiful woman in front of him would be the person issuing missions for the Extreme Star Holy Lands. For these past two years, the high level figures of the Runic Pill Trading Organization had kept in constant contact with Suyu, and to them the Extreme Star Holy Lands was a source of significant wealth.

“And this sir and lady...”

The middle-aged man looked at Lin Ming and Xiao Moxian. Lin Ming didn't reveal his name, only handing over his VIP card and entering.

“Sir Lin, have you rented a room yet?” Suyu turned her hand and the opulent status card disappeared into her spatial ring.

“I haven't. I heard that there were three tiers of seats?”

“Indeed. There are ordinary seats that are on the base level; these are 100,000 points each to rent. Above those are private rooms. The ordinary private rooms are a bit small but the price is 2 million, and above those are the luxury suites that are 30 million.”

The truth was that the Extreme Star Holy Lands had already rented a luxury suite in preparation for this auction. Suyu wanted to invite Lin Ming but she knew that there was no chance he would join her, so she simply didn't ask at all.

30 million points wasn't much to Lin Ming, but he felt that this wasn't necessary. Just an ordinary room was enough to hide his identity.

Lin Ming chose an ordinary private. Like this, he parted with Suyu.

After entering the room, a maid left behind a number plate for Lin Ming and carefully informed him of the rules before leaving.

The room was similar to a floating building in the sky, a bit small and narrow inside. At the front was a massive window through

which one could see the entire auction hall arena as well as a path leading to a balcony outside. The entire auction's luxury suites, ordinary rooms, and ordinary seats were like three different tiers of mountain peaks, layered just like a theatre.

The luxury suites and ordinary rooms were both built with strange flying stones. These stones were marked with all sorts of runes that covered them like sand on paper. It was clear that these divine runic symbols provided a tremendous levitating force to the buildings.

In addition, these flying stones had a natural floating power, so as the massive luxury suites and ordinary rooms were in the skies, they dotted the landscape like islands in the air, able to overlook everything beneath them.

In front of every ordinary room was a massive floating flat projection stone that was 20-30 feet tall. These projection stones clearly reflected every movement on the stage, down to the tiniest detail.

And below that was a giant stone book controlled by a spirit stone. This stone had lines of flowing text on it that indicated the items that were to be auctioned today.

As long as Lin Ming swiped his fingers over the spirit stone, the entire stone book would shine with a gentle shimmering energy and a delicate woman's voice would begin to explain in detail any treasure that was listed.

This was the first time that Lin Ming had experienced such an array formation that explained things in advance. This array formation indeed made things far more convenient.

And at this time, he suddenly heard a commotion coming from the top row of VIP suites.

“Look over there! That is Soaring Starlight Shuttle, Empyrean Lionheart's personal transport! Even Empyrean Lionheart came!

This year's treasure fair is truly a grand event!" Some people cried out in alarm.

Empyrean. This word, no matter where it was said, always carried with it a mystical charm.

When Lin Ming displayed such vivid skills in the Divine Runic Masters Guild, many of the divine runic masters there subconsciously assumed that there was a peak Empyrean powerhouse standing behind him.

Otherwise, it would be impossible for him to have such a deep background in the divine runic arts.

Lin Ming had inherited Torchriver's memories so he had naturally heard of Empyrean Lionheart before. This was a character that had risen to fame tens of millions of years ago, and although he was inferior to top characters like Empyrean Divine Mist, he was still a horrifying existence!

Lin Ming looked out in the center of the arena. The projection stone was currently reflecting the world outside.

All that was seen was a massive interstellar ship as large as a planet, looking like a vicious beast that spanned the heavens and earth.

Swathes of mysterious runes floated like stars around the ship, constantly swirling about.

The entire treasure ship emitted a cold and metallic luster. It was like a sun rising into the heavens, eternally glorious.

Rumble rumble rumble!

The great ship that was thousands of feet high. It emitted ear-cracking creaking sounds as it filled the surroundings with a blazing brilliance, carrying with it a momentum as if it would charge through the universe. People only saw this Empyrean level spirit treasure, the Soaring Starlight Shuttle, but didn't see Empyrean Lionheart themselves. This left many of them feeling a

bit regretful.

“It’s fine. An Empyrean level character isn’t someone we look up at.”

“I heard that before Empyrean Lionheart came, Empyrean Minor Violet had already arrived. But I have no idea where she is...”

“Mm? Empyrean Minor Violet also came?”

“That’s right... rumors say that Empyrean Minor Violet isn’t on friendly terms with Empyrean Lionheart... if the two of them compete, I wonder what sort of scene that would be...”

In the audience, many people were wildly discussing amongst themselves. These two Empyreans were the rulers of their own Empyrean Holy Lands with incomparably rich resources. If they were indeed planning on competing in this auction then that would truly be a dizzying sight!

Lin Ming hadn’t activated the isolation array formations in his room so all of these discussions entered his ears.

Lin Ming also knew of Empyrean Minor Violet. She was a woman who had equally risen to fame tens of millions of years ago and had established her own Holy Land. Whether it was in strength or methods, she was a terrifying character. Empyrean Minor Violet’s name struck like a bolt of thunder in the ears of everyone within the inner Asura Road!

In this auction, two Empyreans had arrived. This was truly a grand event for the ages.

“I just hope these two ruthless people don’t take a liking to the things I want...” As Lin Ming thought of the possible situations that could occur, he could only secretly complain to himself. If they were to struggle with him then he absolutely would be in trouble!

There were many people who even if they had a large number of points wouldn’t dare to compete with two Empyreans. They

simply didn't have the confidence to do so!

“Ladies and gentlemen, you have waited for far too long.”

At this moment, a deep and sonorous voice spread throughout the entire auction hall arena. The scene on the projection stones rippled once more, showing the scene of the auction stage below.

They saw a tall middle-aged man in neat and meticulous clothing stepping onto the auction stage platform. His eyes were deeply set and his nose was high. He had a sharp, pronounced jaw and his aura was deep, giving off a calming feeling.

This person was the president of the Runic Pill Trading Organization as well as a high level Elder of the Divine Runic Masters Guild.

Out of all the Elders within the entire Divine Runic Masters Guild, Song Wen was the only one who wasn't a divine runic master. Even so, he was still an Elder.

Not only did he not have many attainments in the divine runic arts but his strength was also only at the early Holy Lord realm. Still, there wasn't a single person in the Divine Runic Masters Guild that underestimated him, because he had a surpassingly outstanding ability to manage operations of large-scale organizations. This was also the reason he was able to become an Elder.

Divine Rune City was not purely a sect; it was a comprehensive gathering of interests and individuals, and as such needed a person with Song Wen's talents.

“Today's treasure fair has gathered elites from all over. As a show of respect, the first auction today will have me as the auctioneer!”

Song Wen's voice wasn't loud but his words spread through the massive arena site. Not a single word was left out from everyone's ears.

After he finished speaking, a squad of late Divine Lord guards

brought up a giant square box to the auction stage.

This box was completely carved from special obsidian material. This material had an extremely strong isolating effect and also had strong defensive divine runic symbols fused into it.

Even so, from the middle of the box one could hear sounds like the roaring of dragons and tigers. The light of the treasure leaked out shot into the sky, attracting the attention of everyone.

Generally speaking, the first item in an auction would be an extremely high quality item. This was to whet the appetite of the bidders and ignite the enthusiasm of the crowd so that the auction started off on a high note.

And as everyone's eyes were focused on the obsidian box on the auction stage...

In an opulent VIP suite, Duke Fullmoon was embracing his 'junior-apprentice sister Qing' in his chest as he fiddled with an information jade slip.

"Ordinary private room #36? This brat isn't even willing to pay out for a VIP suite?"

When Duke Fullmoon entered the auction hall the first thing he did was to ask someone to look up where Lin Ming was. The locations of all visitors were registered so looking up where someone was wasn't difficult at all.

"He's nothing but a poor little beggar, how could he possibly compare with the Duke?" Junior-apprentice Sister Qing softly said.

"Haha!" Duke Fullmoon laughed, using a little bit of strength to pull Junior-apprentice Sister Qing's waist. He said, "He's not as poor as he seems. 30 million isn't a price that he can't pay. I've looked up some of his information already. After he crafted that batch of Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbols, even with conservative estimates the Extreme Star Holy Lands still paid him

over a billion points!”

Duke Fullmoon had already investigated the quantity and approximate price of Lin Ming’s sale of Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbols. Only by knowing oneself and knowing the enemy could one be undefeated. Since Duke Fullmoon was on bad terms with Lin Ming and he needed the Dragon Contract to begin with, it was naturally best for him to clearly investigate as much as he could into Lin Ming.

At this time, Shadow Overflow, who was also sitting in the VIP suite, lifted up the hood of his black cloak, revealing a face like a wizened old sorcerer.

He hoarsely said, “A billion plus points, how could he be Duke’s match? I heard that the Duke must purchase many things for Divine Void Divine Kingdom this time so you must have a great sum of wealth in hand! In addition with the Duke’s own wealth and mine, that Lin Ming has already lost!”

Chapter 1628 – Nameless Ancient Pill

In this auction, Duke Fullmoon not only represented himself, but also represented Divine Void Divine Kingdom to purchase resources.

Divine Void Divine Kingdom was far too large. Besides Divine Void, the True Divinity ruler of the nation, there were also seven Empyreans. These seven Empyreans each wielded power over a province of Divine Void Divine Kingdom. There were seven provinces, and these seven provinces added together comprised the complete Divine Void Divine Kingdom.

Duke Fullmoon came from the Nine Nether Province and he was a subordinate of Empyrean Nine Nether. Of these seven provinces, the Nine Nether Province was one of the strongest.

“Let’s see just what this first treasure is!”

Duke Fullmoon’s gaze focused on the obsidian box on the auction stage. He was also curious about what the opening treasure of this grand auction would be.

But at this time, Runic Pill Trading Organization President Song Wen didn’t immediately open the box. Instead, he used his rich and magnetic voice to introduce the origin of the treasure.

“Ladies and gentlemen, the treasure within this box was obtained from the Drifting Islands within the Stormy Sea. I’m sure everyone here is already familiar with the Stormy Sea and its Drifting Islands...”

As Song Wen mentioned the Stormy Sea, everyone beneath the stage sucked in a light breath of air.

This was one of the several great life forbidden zones of the inner Asura Road!

Lin Ming also had a deep impression of the Stormy Sea. Not to mention Torchriver’s memories, but when Lin Ming first arrived

at the inner Asura Road, he had inquired at Heaven's Secret about information related to transcendent divine mights of the Nine Stars of the Dao Palace, and Heaven's Secret had given him three pieces of information. The first piece of information concerned the Forbidden Divine Barrens, the third piece of information concerned Mo Brightmoon's Celestial Tyrant Manual, and the second piece of information concerned the Stormy Sea.

The Stormy Sea had islands that mysteriously flitted in and out of existence; these were the Drifting Islands. According to Heaven's Secret, the Drifting Islands had inheritances left behind by powerhouses related to the Nine Stars of the Dao Palace. Thus, if Lin Ming were to find the Drifting Islands there was a chance he could obtain transcendent divine mights related to the Nine Stars of the Dao Palace.

But these islands had no fixed location. Their whereabouts were unknown, constantly shifting, like a mirage that vanished upon second glance. Many powerhouses went to the Stormy Sea to search for these islands but their exploration ended in failure. Some of them returned, but some of them went missing, their life or death unknown.

He never imagined that the first treasure of this auction would have been found at the Drifting Islands!

Out of the many life forbidden zones of the inner Asura Road, the Drifting Islands wasn't the most dangerous but it was absolutely the most enigmatic. No one knew how they were formed. If one wanted to find the Drifting Islands and return alive, they needed to have absolute strength and a great destiny above their body, otherwise it would be impossible to succeed.

"The first treasure is something found at the Drifting Islands!?"

"Divine Rune City's auction is really explosively amazing, it's no wonder that even Emphyreans would come here!"

For some martial artists in the arena, this was their first time

attending Divine Rune City's treasure fair. Upon seeing such treasures with their own eyes they were definitely drooling with greed, but what a pity they weren't able to afford such treasures.

Most of them didn't have a total net worth surpassing 30 million points.

"Let's not come to conclusions so quickly. Although this is something from the Drifting Islands it might not be too precious. There are also useless treasures at the Drifting Islands; we have to see what grade of treasure this is first."

Some people said. However, they soon shut up.

This was because as Song Wen opened the obsidian box, a strange spiritual light shot out from the slits of the box. At the same time, a massive aura of life gushed out, as if there were some living creature inside.

Such a boundless and vigorous aura definitely wouldn't belong to something ordinary.

Song Wen used both hands to lift up a small jade platform. And at the center of this jade platform was a little circular groove, and this groove surprisingly held a pill!

As this pill appeared, it released a brilliant rainbow-colored light. Faint traces of flames seemed to burn on the surface of the pill, slowly evolving into mystical shapes. There were dragons, phoenix, humans, and even traces of the Great Dao as well as the aura of Laws.

Even though Lin Ming was several miles away from the auction stage, he could still feel a formidable spirituality.

This was an extraordinary pill!

Lin Ming instantly judged. He could feel all the blood within his body being galvanized by this pill, as if the blood within him were about to spray out at any moment.

Lin Ming's blood vitality was extremely stable, but this pill was still able to affect the very foundation of his blood. This proved that there was an incredible condensed power of blood vitality within this pill.

Moreover, Lin Ming could faintly feel that this pill sent out a vast energy, one that would be tremendously helpful to his own essence gathering system!

Back in the past when Heaven's Net had given him information, they said that the Drifting Islands had inheritances related to powerhouses that cultivated the Nine Stars of the Dao Palace that existed from before the great tribulation. Lin Ming suspected that this pill was left behind by ancient ancestors of humanity.

This was a pill that could supplement his blood vitality as well as greatly enhance his essence gathering system!

This was a pill completely suited towards Lin Ming!

Lin Ming was immediately tempted. But, he felt that this sudden surprise wasn't good at all. This was only the first auction and he was far from any sign of a jade dragon horn or dragon saliva grass, and yet he discovered that he had an intense desire to win the auction of this pill!

In total Lin Ming had around 2 billion points. If he had to buy different treasures as well as keep the dragon saliva grass and jade dragon horn in mind, then even if he doubled his points to four billion he still wouldn't have enough!

Lin Ming hesitated but he didn't give up on purchasing this pill. To him, this pill was far too useful. It could even be said that for the current Lin Ming, this was a pill perfectly crafted for him. It was something that could only be found through a stroke of fate. If he were to miss out on it now then he would be regretting it in the future.

However, Lin Ming simultaneously couldn't give up on the jade

dragon horn and dragon saliva grass. If so, then he had to rely on some special methods to earn points!

Song Wen placed the pill back down on the auction stage platform. Lin Ming discovered that the phantoms on this pill radiated outwards, producing phantasmal images that seemed to be using up the medicinal strength of the pill.

But, the truth was that even though these medicinal strengths scattered outwards, they returned due to some strange traces of the Heavenly Dao Law and were then reabsorbed again. It was like the pill itself was breathing.

“Divine runic symbol!”

Lin Ming could see that on the surface of the pill, there was an extremely sophisticated divine runic symbol. Not only did this divine runic symbol enhance the effects of the pill but its greatest function was to maintain the strength of the pill. If this were a seventh grade divine runic symbol then there really was the chance that this pill could keep for at least a billion years without losing any strength.

If there was a time enchantment that slowed time as well as a variety of array formations, then it wouldn't be difficult to maintain the peak potency of this pill for billions of years. This was also the reason why a divine pill like this could be preserved on the Drifting Islands for such a long time.

“The base bid price is 500 million. Every increase in bid price can be no less than 10 million points. Now, let the auction begin!”

Song Wen shouted out loud. Before a moment of time passed, someone immediately shouted out a price.

“550 million!”

In a single breath someone had raised the bid by 50 million. But in truth, this pill's value far surpassed this price.

Standing near Lin Ming, Xiao Moxian couldn't help but feel

worried for him. Currently, Lin Ming's financial resources weren't too abundant.

“560 million!”

“570 million!”

The bid continued to rise. Those that had spoken out a bid price so far were martial artists in the ordinary rooms. Martial artists in the ordinary seats weren't able to bid such a high price and the people in the luxury VIP suites had yet to take action.

But at this time, a voice echoed out from a luxury suite.

“700 million!”

The reason for raising the bid price so much at once was to kick out all of those who didn't have the resources to match it. And, this effect was achieved. Many bidders in the ordinary rooms immediately fizzled.

“730 million!”

Someone else increased the bid price again. This person was also from the luxury suites.

“Big Brother Lin, what do you plan on doing? Looking at this momentum the price might rise over a billion, and that disgusting Duke Fullmoon might target you too!”

Xiao Moxian hurriedly said. If the greater portion of Lin Ming's wealth were to be sucked dry during the first auction then what would he do afterwards?

The bid price continued to climb but Lin Ming actually remained silent. He was rapidly estimating the price of this ancient nameless pill.

Although this pill came from ancient times, Lin Ming possessed a vast breadth of knowledge on pills and could estimate the approximate cost. According to normal calculations, the true value of this pill was around 1.3-1.4 billion points.

This price was truly difficult for Lin Ming to withstand.

Lin Ming thought for a moment. Then he said, "Xian'er, this pill might be sold for less than a billion."

"Mm?" Xiao Moxian was stunned.

"Let's wait and see. I won't buy this pill if it crosses 1.2 billion."

Lin Ming's thoughts were clear. This ancient nameless pill was valuable, but the bidders sitting in this auction hall were mostly spiritas. To them, this pill that was left behind by ancient human seniors wasn't as valuable as it was to Lin Ming.

Even if there were some human martial artists that planned to buy this pill, they often only cultivated the essence gathering system. This made it so that the value of this pill was far less than 1.3-1.4 billion; the cost to performance ratio simply wasn't good enough.

But Lin Ming, who dual cultivating body and energy, could display the full potential of this pill.

And as he thought, when the bid price rose to 770 million there was suddenly a drastic drop in bidders.

Everyone had their own scale in mind. The people present here weren't idiots.

"800 million!"

Lin Ming suddenly said. Although his voice was calm, his inner emotions weren't as tranquil. He really feared that an Empyrean would emerge and suddenly compete with him.

He looked up at the several highest luxury suites. If he wasn't wrong, then Empyrean Minor Violet and Empyrean Lionheart were staying in those suites.

"820 million!"

At this time, a familiar voice sounded out. Lin Ming looked over and saw a feather-robed man standing in front of the windows of

his luxury suite, holding a crystal cup in his hands. This cup contained a blood red wine and there was a faintly happy expression on this man's face as he slowly sipped on the wine.

From a distance, this man even turned towards Lin Ming and raised his glass in greetings.

This person was Duke Fullmoon.

In all rooms, there were array formations that limited sight into them. But, Duke Fullmoon deliberately deactivated these array formations to allow Lin Ming to see him.

“That annoying fly, it's him again!”

Xiao Moxian felt a deep loathing as she saw Duke Fullmoon. She wished she could spit in his face.

Lin Ming also slightly frowned.

“840 million!” Lin Ming shouted out once more.

“850 million!” Duke Fullmoon followed up right after.

Duke Fullmoon was bidding not just to spite Lin Ming but to consume Lin Ming's wealth so that he couldn't compete for the Dragon Contract later. Things would be easier with one less competitor. Otherwise, if Lin Ming really bet his nearly 2 billion points on the Dragon Contract then even Duke Fullmoon would find the price painful to match.

Chapter 1629 – Ancient Pill In Hand

“Hehe... Duke Fullmoon has calculated well. If I’m not wrong then this Lin Ming needs the nameless ancient pill. He is a human as well as someone who dual cultivates body and energy; this ancient pill could be called perfectly suited for him. Because of that, it will be easy to ruin him!”

In the VIP suite, Shadow Overflow cackled. His laugh had a strangely eerie feel to it.

According to their information, Lin Ming’s wealth didn’t surpass 2 billion. If Lin Ming were to buy the ancient pill for over a billion then there wouldn’t be any threat from him later on.

“900 million!”

Lin Ming suddenly increased the bid by 50 million.

However, Duke Fullmoon didn’t stop here. He shouted out, “910 million!”

The two times he bid were only 10 million higher than Lin Ming’s bid price. It seemed that he intended to purposefully hinder him.

“950 million!” Lin Ming shouted out again.

“960 million!” In the VIP suite, Duke Fullmoon laughed out loud. To have Lin Ming spend even a hundred million more with just a little bit of effort, this caused him to be in a very good mood.

And at this time, in an ordinary room, Xiao Moxian’s face was cold to the point of developing frost. She was just a step away from violently rushing out.

“Big Brother Lin, this damned dead fly is deliberately targeting you! He doesn’t want to buy that pill, he just wants to waste your points. If this continues then you are only throwing away your hard earned wealth.”

Lin Ming nodded. “That’s right. He wants to annoy me and use

up my resources, but he won't have the courage to continually follow me."

Lin Ming had a set price in mind for this pill and that was that he wouldn't surpass 1.2 billion. This was a limit that Duke Fullmoon wasn't aware of.

Lin Ming could use this to his advantage.

"990 million." Lin Ming added another 30 million. He called out this bid so that Duke Fullmoon would bid a billion.

According to Lin Ming's estimate, a billion points surpassed the limit that this pill would sell for at the auction.

And Duke Fullmoon did as Lin Ming thought he would. He drawlingly called out, "One billion. Haha, that friend in the ordinary room, do you really want to struggle with me?"

Duke Fullmoon insolently said. His voice spread far as if he were intentionally trying to anger Lin Ming.

He thought that Lin Ming would shout out another price and then he could disturb Lin Ming several more times, causing him to lose even more wealth, but he didn't think that Lin Ming wouldn't speak up again.

Lin Ming seemed to suddenly quiet down in the ordinary room he was in, no longer shouting out a price.

"Guest #24 has put forth a bid of one billion! The first item of this auction has already broken through a billion! Is there anyone willing to bid higher?"

On the auction stage, Song Wen spoke with zealous fervor.

However, no one in the auction seats responded. The psychology of people was quite subtle. 990 million was only 10 million away from a billion, but crossing this gap gave two completely different feelings.

To spend a billion points to buy this ancient pill, the price to

performance ratio of this was far too low.

Song Wen shouted out one more time but there still wasn't a response. When it came to some auctions of the highest caliber like this one, even a magnificent auctioneer could only play a limited effect in increasing the price.

Let alone Song Wen, even if Suyu put on her most sexually appealing attire and did her best to arouse enthusiasm and seduce the audience, she still wouldn't have much of an effect.

The VIP guests who could afford to bid upon this nameless ancient pill were all powerful figures of their great influences or were absurdly strong. So, which one of these people would toss away a billion points just to win the smile of a beautiful woman?

“One billion, going once!”

Song Wen began to announce.

Hearing these words, Duke Fullmoon felt his heart skip a beat.

He didn't want to buy this nameless ancient pill. This was something used by humans and was suited for martial artists that dual cultivated body and energy. As a spirit, whether it was him or the Divine Void Divine Kingdom behind him, no one needed this ancient pill.

If he bought something that wasn't of much use he could only pay for it from his own pockets. It was impossible for him to use the wealth of Divine Void Divine Kingdom to pay for this ancient pill and his pockets weren't so large that he could disregard a loss of a billion points.

If he obtained the ancient pill the only thing he could do was resell it. But no matter who he sold it to, he wouldn't be able to match the price that it sold for at this auction.

But this wasn't the crucial issue. The key problem was that it would take a long time afterwards for him to resell this nameless ancient pill. This would make it so that the wealth he had to spend

in this auction would diminish by a great deal. If something truly amazing were to appear later he might not be able to afford it!

And even if he thought of using Divine Void Divine Kingdom's wealth to buy something he wanted, that would be something that belonged to the Divine Void Divine Kingdom, not him.

“One billion, going twice!”

Song Wen counted down once more. Duke Fullmoon's pulse began to race. He looked up towards the top two VIP suites, hoping that Empyrean Lionheart or Empyrean Minor Violet would be interested in this ancient pill. However, the two VIP suites were quiet from beginning to end, as if they never even heard anything.

To an Empyrean, this nameless ancient pill wasn't of much use at all.

Empyreans could refine their own transcendent divine pills, but more than that, eating up a transcendent divine pill wasn't too beneficial to their own cultivation.

Many Empyreans had been stranded at their boundaries for a long time and had been unable to break through. Wanting to rely on a simple transcendent divine pill to make massive leaps in their cultivation was the talk of a babbling moron.

Seeing Song Wen count down a third time, Duke Fullmoon felt as if he had eaten a fly.

He felt like he had been stupidly tricked.

He thought of ruining Lin Ming but he hadn't considered Lin Ming's wealth enough.

Although Lin Ming wanted this nameless ancient pill, he might not be able to afford that sky high price!

“That poor fool, he doesn't have any capital to struggle with the Duke. What an idiot to compete for treasures.” Nestled in Duke Fullmoon's chest, Junior-apprentice Sister Qing had a proud

expression as she tenderly smiled. Her talent could only be considered decent and wanting to stand out in Divine Void Divine Kingdom was impossible. If she wanted to rise above the crowds she needed to attach herself to someone with authority and potential, such as Duke Fullmoon. Now, she had increasingly felt that she had chosen the correct person.

With such a grand auction that gathered innumerable heroes and even two Emphyreans, the man she chose had domineeringly bid on the first item of the auction, forcing out all people so that no one dared to shout a higher price.

Originally Duke Fullmoon was already upset, but now this brainless woman was trying to flatter him for no reason at all, causing him to be even more irritated and ashamed of himself. He shoved the flirting woman away, roaring, "Get out!"

Junior-apprentice Sister Qing was pushed rolling away and nearly struck the wall. She was frightened; she had no idea just why Duke Fullmoon had suddenly become so angry.

And at this time, just as Song Wen was about to begin his final countdown, someone shouted out a bid from the ordinary rooms. "One billion... and ten million!"

This voice was heavy, as if the bidder couldn't bear this price at all.

And as this voice entered Duke Fullmoon's ears, it was like the melodious call of heaven.

He let out a long sigh of relief, finally saved at the last moment. He looked towards the room that shouted out this price and saw that it was indeed Lin Ming.

Duke Fullmoon's complexion darkened. This item had finally been won by Lin Ming.

At this time he didn't dare to continue a bidding war with Lin Ming. With Lin Ming's current wealth, this bidding price was

likely his limit.

“This poor fool!”

Duke Fullmoon cursed out loud. He wanted to rip off Lin Ming some more, but he didn't think Lin Ming would be so poor. Duke Fullmoon simply didn't have the courage to continue.

After shouting out three bids and having to experience a brief bout of fear and trepidation only to cause Lin Ming to lose a hundred million plus points, Duke Fullmoon wasn't too happy.

Then, Shadow Overflow chuckled. “The truth is that Duke's goal has already been accomplished. During this first auction, 60-70% of Lin Ming's wealth has been removed... after this he shouldn't pose much of a threat anymore.”

Even though this was true, Duke Fullmoon didn't feel too great.

“This brat Lin Ming seems to have already given up on the jade dragon horn. He's smart enough, at least he knows when to give way. But, the only problem is that if he gives up the initiative like this then I can't step on him later.”

Duke Fullmoon's complexion sank. He wanted to roll over Lin Ming in the auction for the jade dragon horn, but now he felt as if he were punching nothing but pillows.

And at this time, Song Wen counted down a third time. The first item in this auction had been won by Lin Ming!

“Congratulations to this guest in ordinary room #36 for winning this nameless ancient pill from the Drifting Islands!” Song Wen loudly announced. There was a smattering of applause throughout the audience. Many people were startled. They didn't think that there would be crouching tigers and hidden dragons amongst the ordinary rooms.

Chapter 1630 – Violet Gold Spear

According to the rules of the auction, the deadline for payments was ten days after the end of the auction.

If one took the treasures but didn't pay, one would receive the severe retribution of Divine Rune City. Punishments involved being imprisoned for thousands or even tens of thousands of years.

Generally speaking, no one would do such a thing. This was because before entering the auction, one had to verify their identity with a status card. Those people with considerable status and weight in the world certainly wouldn't do something so shameless.

“Then, onto the second auction item!”

Several elegantly-dressed women brought out a tall sandalwood box that was dozens of feet high. As Song Wen opened this box, everyone could see that it was a portable cave dwelling.

Lin Ming didn't have any interest in this sort of thing; he already had Primordius Heavenly Palace.

The starting price of this cave dwelling was 20 million points. After the auction began, scattered bids arose from the audience. Finally, the one to win was a martial artist in an ordinary arena seat. This item was won with 35 million points.

After the cave dwelling, there were mystical treasures, contract beasts, medicines, pills, magic weapons, and all sorts of other things that were brought out one after another.

Of these items, some aroused Lin Ming's interest. But as he considered the values of the items, he didn't bid as he thought they weren't worth the price.

This auction would continue for an entire month and was divided into several parts. Just the first round of the auction would last for three days and three nights.

To a martial artist, three days and three nights was less time than one spent in a bout of meditation.

As Lin Ming paid attention to the items that were being auctioned he also practiced the Divine Mist Heart Mantra. The reason Lin Ming was able to arrive at where he was, besides his luck and will, all of this was related to his diligence and hard work. Now, Lin Ming's cultivation was a race against time. If this auction was to last for an entire month he naturally couldn't stop cultivating.

But at this time, Song Wen brought out a black stone chest that piqued his interest.

This stone box seemed ordinary and simple, but Lin Ming could feel a faint and vast aura exuding from it.

As Song Wen slowly opened the stone box, a faint black light shot straight out, illuminating the arena. A cold killing intent spread out with it and Lin Ming's body shook. As he gazed at that black light, he could feel something that resonated with his soul... spear potential!

“That's a spear...”

Lin Ming was a professional veteran of spears. Before, the saint artifact Phoenix Blood Spear had accompanied him through his battles, slowly being tempered until it was finally reborn into a spirit treasure. It was a powerful spear that would continue to grow with him.

Thus when it came to spears, Lin Ming had a startling sense of acuity.

In the VIP suites, Duke Fullmoon stared at the item in the stone box, equally excited. It was just that the resonance in his heart was weaker than Lin Ming's and he also had a sense of uncertainty.

“Empyrean level spirit treasure spear?”

Duke Fullmoon's eyes shined.

“Empyrean spirit treasure? Duke, you are already at the World King realm and you also wield spears. The spear you’ve been using is nothing but an ordinary spirit artifact that cannot follow your rapid ascent. Now, this treasure here seems perfectly suited for the Duke. You must succeed in obtaining it!”

Junior-apprentice Sister Qing leaned into Duke Fullmoon and giggled. Even though she had been violently shoved away by Duke Fullmoon, she didn’t dare to display any temper at all. Her relationship with Duke Fullmoon was just like a mortal emperor and their concubine; since when would a concubine dare lose their temper with the emperor?

Duke Fullmoon didn’t seem to hear her words. He only continued staring at the black box.

Song Wen fiddle with something on the black stone chest. Then, strange runes lit up all around the black box, surging about with waves of energy as it automatically opened. Then, an intense brilliance exploded outwards like a dazzling sun as torrent of essence energy shot up into the skies!

A dragon-like golden spear burst out, humming in the void, emitting a pressure as deep as the sea!

“This is another precious item to be sold today, an Empyrean spirit treasure excavated from some Empyrean ruins – the Violet Gold Spear! The starting price is 800 million points!”

800 million was an extremely exaggerated number. But, an Empyrean spirit treasure was indeed worth this price!

A so-called Empyrean spirit treasure was not a treasure forged by an Empyrean, but a treasure that was raised and cultivated by an Empyrean.

It needed to be carried with an Empyrean, passing through millions of years of nourishment as it slowly transformed. In their lives, an Empyrean would raise at most several Empyrean spirit

treasures. With their 100 million year lifespan, they wouldn't produce over 10 such treasures.

For instance, Lin Ming's Phoenix Blood Spear. When Lin Ming became an Empyrean and used all sorts of additional heavenly materials to refine his spear, he could receive it into his inner world and nourish it with his essence energy until it became an Empyrean spirit treasure.

But this was a very long process. It was impossible to do this without waiting millions of years.

It could only be said that Lin Ming grew too quickly. Even though Lin Ming's Phoenix Blood Spear crossed through heavenly tribulation with him and developed an artifact spirit, when compared to Lin Ming's heaven-defying growth, even the Phoenix Blood Spear couldn't keep up.

When an Empyrean was living, they wouldn't sell the Empyrean spirit treasures they cultivated even if offered 10 billion points. This was because only a weapon they raised themselves would be best suited for them.

It was only when an Empyrean died and their Empyrean spirit treasures become masterless treasures would these items be dug up from ruins by their descendants and then sold.

Song Wen took the gold spear in his hands. Holding this spear, the feeling was like he was grasping onto a golden dragon.

This spear was 12 foot long and was an overlord spear. In a sense it was more appropriate to call it a lance.

The golden spear's shaft was covered with mystical lines. The spear head was dark black and red, emitting a sharp light that cut into the eyes.

"The spear shaft is covered with Asura Law lines, but what a pity... there are some places that are lacking..."

Lin Ming's understanding into the Asura Heavenly Dao became

increasingly deep with every passing day. He could see with a single glance what was wrong with the patterns on the golden spear shaft.

The Asura Heavenly Dao was incomparably mysterious to the martial artists of the Asura Road; no one could solve it. Even a seventh grade divine runic master could only summarize the knowledge of their predecessors to engrave array formations, but the truth was that they didn't understand the essence of the Asura Heavenly Dao.

Because of this, it was impossible for them to draw up perfect Asura Heavenly Dao patterns.

“How unfortunate. That spear's Buddha-killing aura is absolute and I have no idea how many powerhouses' blood it has drunk. In addition, it was carried by an Empyrean level character for million of years and has developed a terrifying killing intent. It is wonderful in nearly all aspects. If only the Asura Heavenly Dao patterns on it were perfect then it would undergo a qualitative transformation!”

Lin Ming deeply sighed, feeling a bit regretful. The structure of this spear had already been finalized and it was impossible to change the Asura Heavenly Dao patterns on the spear shaft. Otherwise, if he were to try it would only cause more mistakes, resulting in an opposite effect and worsening it.

Moreover, there was something else. This spear shaft was forged with violet red golden crystals. These crystals were extremely expensive and extremely hard. If supported by an array formation then even a Great World King could give up all thoughts of crushing it.

Even so, violet red golden crystals lacked any elasticity. In other words, this violet gold spear was a hard spear. This meant that in Lin Ming's eyes, its functionality dropped a great deal.

A hard spear without flexibility meant that there was no

cushioning force. In a head-on collision of toughness, it was easy to be struck and injured by the shaking force.

Of course, even with these two disadvantages, this Violet Gold Spear was still far superior to Lin Ming's own Phoenix Blood Spear!

If Lin Ming could switch spears he would certainly be willing to. After all, the Phoenix Blood Spear would take far too long to grow.

Currently, Lin Ming estimated that the final price of this spear would be around 1.2-1.4 billion points. But to Lin Ming, this price was far too high for the value he would receive. The most he could accept was a billion points, but this amount could only buy a spear shaft.

Lin Ming glanced outside his room at everyone else in the arena. He could see a fanatic greed in the eyes of the other martial artists as they stared at the Violet Gold Spear. It was clear they had a strong desire to buy that Violet Gold Spear!

A weapon on the level of an Empyrean spirit treasure was surpassingly rare! Even in this auction there wouldn't be more than a few of them.

To find an Empyrean spirit treasure that suited oneself, this could only be called a stroke of fate.

"Let the auction begin!" Song Wen loudly proclaimed.

But just as Song Wen's voice fell, someone shouted out loud from the VIP suites. "850 million!"

"860 million!"

There were many people that wanted to buy this Violet Gold Spear.

These people were mostly World King powerhouses, even Great World King powerhouses. Only this type of person had the ability to just barely move the powers of an Empyrean spirit treasure. As for those people of a lower boundary, they weren't able to afford it.

“900 million!”

The bid continued to climb. Although the martial artists in the VIP suites were all high level figures, none of them understood the Asura Heavenly Dao like Lin Ming did, thus they couldn't see the flaws in the Violet Gold Spear. To them, this Violet Gold Spear was the peak level that a weapon could obtain. Even if they were to expend every cent of their wealth to buy this spear they would still think it was worth it!

As the bid price rose like increasingly strong waves, this caused Duke Fullmoon's blood to boil with ambition. He definitely had to win this spear.

“You aren't going to bid?” Shadow Overflow smiled. He could see that Duke Fullmoon wanted to obtain this spear no matter the cost.

“Hehe, there's no need to be in a hurry. Those shouting out bids right now are just being noisy. This spear is definitely worth more than that! Even buying it for 1.5 billion or 1.6 billion isn't anything at all!”

Duke Fullmoon's judgment was much worse than Lin Ming's. To him this spear could sell for 1.5-1.6 billion, but to Lin Ming it could only sell for 1.3-1.4 billion.

“I've heard that Lin Ming also uses the spear. I was hoping to roll over him in this auction but he hasn't even said anything. How boring...”

“Duke, how many points could that poor idiot have? To a little nobody like him, this Empyrean spirit treasure is just something to look at, how could he possibly afford it?” Junior-apprentice Sister Qing giggled from Duke Fullmoon's chest.

“Heh, you're right my little darling, he definitely won't dare do anything at this price range.” Duke Fullmoon grinned. He reached out a hand and began to recklessly knead Junior-apprentice Sister

Qing's plump chest.

“1.2 billion!”

Duke Fullmoon suddenly shouted out.

A sudden bid of 1.2 billion caused many people to lose the courage to bid higher. For a time, the entire arena calmed down.

Duke Fullmoon was more than satisfied with this effect. He looked towards Lin Ming's room, a meaningful smile crossing his face.

But in the next moment, his smile froze. From Lin Ming's ordinary room, another bid was clearly shouted out, “1.21 billion!”

Chapter 1631 – Lin Ming Strikes Back

1.21 billion was only 10 million higher than Duke Fullmoon's bid. It seemed as if Lin Ming was making it clear that he was going to challenge Duke Fullmoon.

“Just what qualifications does this brat have to oppose me!?”

Duke Fullmoon frowned. He thought that Lin Ming wouldn't be able to compete with him but Lin Ming actually shouted out such a price. “He shouldn't have many points left. If he shouts out this bid then he must have placed himself in great debt! He wants to borrow money to compete; does he really think he can defeat me?”

Duke Fullmoon didn't place Lin Ming's bid in his heart because he didn't consider Lin Ming to be a worthy opponent. If Lin Ming hadn't bought the nameless ancient pill then he might not have been in trouble, but currently he was only a little grasshopper, able to hop a few times before being crushed.

“Hehe, he is just an idiot slapping himself in the face. My Duke should find it easy to clean the likes of him up. There won't be chances for him to cause a commotion any longer.”

Junior-apprentice Sister Qing giggled as she wrapped herself around Duke Fullmoon's neck.

Duke Fullmoon laughed. He called out, “1.25 billion!”

However, just as Duke Fullmoon's voice fell, from the ordinary rooms, Lin Ming once again called out, “1.26 billion!”

Lin Ming's voice was calm and steady as if he didn't even care about these points.

Duke Fullmoon's complexion immediately darkened.

He stood up, his gaze blazing as he stared at Lin Ming's direction. His eyes seemed as if they could pierce through the isolating array formations around Lin Ming's room and kill everyone within.

“1.3 billion!”

At this time, another person put in a bid. This person was not Lin Ming nor were they Duke Fullmoon. Rather, they also came from the VIP suites. This voice was deep and sonorous, accompanied with a profound aura; they were clearly also a master.

There were many World Kings and Great World Kings present that used the spear. They would absolutely desire this Empyrean spirit treasure level divine spear.

Duke Fullmoon fell silent, not immediately responding. It seemed as if he were waiting for Lin Ming to shout out another bid. He knew that Lin Ming was also a martial artist that used a spear; he would definitely be persistent in bidding on this one.

After waiting for some time and without Lin Ming shouting out a bid, Song Wen began to count down. This caused Duke Fullmoon’s eyes to twitch with rage.

With this, it was clear that Lin Ming was targeting him!

“1.35 billion!” Duke Fullmoon shouted out.

And at this time, just as he thought, Lin Ming immediately followed up, “1.36 billion!”

Lin Ming’s voice remained tranquil, completely disregarding Duke Fullmoon’s rising anger.

The two men stood in sharp contention!

“This is impossible! Where would he come up with so many points from?” Shadow Overflow wrinkled his eyebrows. According to the information he obtained, Lin Ming had between 1-2 billion points. After buying the nameless ancient pill, he should have 700-800 million points left. Even if he borrowed some points, it would have been incredible if he could borrow 300-500 million points, so how could he shout out this sky high bid of almost 1.4 billion points?

“He might be deliberately duping me so that I will have to pay a higher price!”

In Duke Fullmoon’s opinion, Lin Ming would want this Violet Gold Spear even in his dreams. But since he couldn’t afford it, this brat would simply take the opportunity to con him.

Before, Duke Fullmoon had purposefully made it clear he wanted to scam Lin Ming, and now Lin Ming was doing it in return!

“Duke, what will you do? Will you give up? Do you want Lin Ming to fall into his own trap and lose the qualifications to the auction and be punished by the Divine Runic Masters Guild?”

“No! I must win this spear no matter what! And this Lin Ming is someone extremely valued by the Divine Runic Masters Guild. Even if they punish him it won’t be anything too serious.”

Duke Fullmoon stood up, irritated. He paced back and forth in his VIP suite.

What he always lacked was a good spear. Today, no matter how expensive this Violet Gold Spear was, Duke Fullmoon still had to buy it.

This was because after another 20 some years, the final trial would begin!

Within the entire Asura Road, the final trial was the most valuable mystic realm, the one that held the most and greatest treasures. It was singularly unique without any other comparison. Duke Fullmoon would definitely not miss out on this chance!

However, even Divine Void Divine Kingdom had a limited quota of people they could bring to the final trial.

Within Divine Void Divine Kingdom, Duke Fullmoon was only a Duke subordinate to the Nine Nether Province. He was considered an excellent talent in the Nine Nether Province, but when placed within the entire Divine Void Divine Kingdom, he wasn’t the best. This was because Divine Void Divine Kingdom was far too large

and there were geniuses pouring out from everywhere. It was difficult to blossom in splendor with so much competition!

With Duke Fullmoon's current comprehensive abilities, he only grasped a 30% chance of standing out. But with this Violet Gold Spear, his chances could rise to 60-70%!

Thus, this bidding war was one that Duke Fullmoon could only win, he could not be defeated here!

At this time, that third person who bid 1.3 billion suddenly shouted out a higher price. "1.4 billion!"

This person was able to smell the thick explosive atmosphere between Lin Ming and Duke Fullmoon. He was also eager to see Lin Ming and Duke Fullmoon wrestle each other to the ground.

"Good! Very good! One after another you want to compete with me, then show me just how long you can compete for! 1.6 billion!" Duke Fullmoon cried out, suddenly increasing the bid by 200 million!

1.6 billion was the ideal bid in Duke Fullmoon's mind. In his estimation, this spear should not surpass that price.

Hearing this bid blow up out from nowhere, many people were left dumbfounded.

It had to be known that in a bid for an Empyrean spirit treasure, nearly all bidders were World Kings, Great World Kings, or half-step Empyreans at the limit. Empyrean level supreme elders simply wouldn't participate in a bidding war for an Empyrean spirit treasure. They had their own Empyrean spirit treasures, ones that were far more useful than Empyrean spirit treasures cultivated by others.

At 1.6 billion points, that was a price more than enough to force a World King to shrink back. Even for Great World Kings, only relatively wealthy ones amongst them could put forth such a high bid.

For a time, the entire arena was left quiet and peaceful. It seemed that no one was willing to shout out another price.

When it concerned such a tremendous amount of money, even Duke Fullmoon found it hard to remain calm. He picked up the glass of wine from the table and slowly sipped it, finally calming his nerves this way.

He had to buy this spear no matter the cost. What he feared now was someone increasing the price further.

“1.6 billion, is there a higher bid?”

Song Wen shouted out. No one replied, but Song Wen seemed to possess a great capacity for patience. He shouted out again and again, each shout causing Duke Fullmoon to have the desire to rush out and punch him in the face.

“1.6 billion, going once!”

Song Wen finally began the final countdown.

“1.6 billion, going twice...”

Song Wen deliberately drew out his words, hoping for a higher bid to appear.

And at this time, a calm voice echoed out from Lin Ming’s room –

“1.61 billion.”

This bid was faint and indifferent. It was as if Lin Ming wasn’t bidding a price, but rather speaking a random number.

“What!?”

The glass was crushed to nothing in Duke Fullmoon’s hand. The bright red wine splashed onto the floor like blood!

He thought that a bid of 1.6 billion was the limit, and even that the World King who joined in on the bidding had quieted down, not daring to bid another price.

But Lin Ming had randomly shouted out 1.61 billion with no

pause at all, as if points were nothing but dirt to him.

Duke Fullmoon was livid with rage. He pulled open the doors to the VIP suite and rushed outwards.

All VIP suites floated high in the air of the arena sky. After rushing out, Duke Fullmoon floated above everyone's heads.

For a time, everyone looked at Duke Fullmoon, not sure why he had come out.

Duke Fullmoon's complexion was deep and grim. He used hateful eyes to glare in Lin Ming's direction. Then, he slowly said, "I suspect you are lying. There is no way you have so many points!"

With these words, the entire arena broke into an uproar.

Duke Fullmoon was not a weakling who was easy to deal with. He knew that Lin Ming wanted to buy this Violet Gold Spear but couldn't afford it. As for himself, he needed this spear and it was impossible for him to give up. Thus, he deliberately aimed at Lin Ming.

As Duke Fullmoon spoke, everyone's eyes turned to Lin Ming and the room he was in.

"In the auction for the nameless ancient pill you already spent a billion points, but now you even called out an additional 1.6 billion points. Do you really have 2.6 billion points? If so, then bring them out so we can all take a good look."

Duke Fullmoon was aggressive and menacing!

In the private room, Xiao Moxian was a bit anxious. "Lin Ming, what do we do now? This fly isn't easy to trick, ah... we only have a little more than 1.9 billion points, that's far short of 2.6 billion."

Lin Ming frowned and then stood up.

And at this time, Duke Fullmoon laughed out loud. "I know you don't have that many points! According to what I know, the person in that booth is part of the Divine Runic Masters Guild! I even

suspect that he is a bid manipulator!”

Chapter 1632 – Insane

In order to take revenge against Lin Ming, Duke Fullmoon was willing to do anything. Although he didn't specifically state who he was being a proxy bid manipulator for, the meaning behind his words was clear enough.

These actions were done so that the Divine Runic Masters Guild wouldn't favor Lin Ming and protect him. After all, making a request to investigate the wealth of a person was impolite. That was their personal privacy and Lin Ming had the right to refuse.

Now that Duke Fullmoon suddenly threw out these words, everyone began to ramble on in chaos.

'Bid manipulator'. This was an extremely sensitive term to an auction house!

Now that Duke Fullmoon said it loudly to everyone in the arena, how could there not be a massive uproar?

On the auction stage, Song Wen's face immediately darkened. Although he could throw out Duke Fullmoon using the excuse that he was disturbing the auction, this action would inevitably influence the auction itself!

The audience would think that the Divine Runic Masters Guild was doing this from a guilty conscience!

This placed Song Wen in a conundrum.

The reason Song Wen fell into this embarrassing situation due to Duke Fullmoon's words was because the profession of a 'bid manipulator' was far too common in auctions. One could even call it a hidden rule!

A bid manipulator's job was to stir up the atmosphere, raising the price and causing bidders to go crazy.

They would up the bid on items, making bidders take out even

more money to win.

Even if they made an error in judgment and won over the real bidders, they could still create a false impression of the incident and then create more support for the next auction of that item. This could be considered advertising for the auction house.

It only took a tiny commission to bring in a far higher income. With such an easy and cheap method, it wasn't a surprise that auction houses would hire these people.

However, the Divine Runic Masters Guild's auction house had existed for hundreds of millions of years. They valued their reputation above all and wouldn't do such heinous things.

Even so, once this topic was raised it would inevitably arouse suspicion!

Thus, the existence of 'bid manipulators' was a sensitive issue at this auction house. The average person wouldn't dare to make such claims, but Duke Fullmoon had the Divine Void Divine Kingdom standing behind him!

Divine Void Divine Kingdom was a titan that was even larger than Divine Rune City. It could be called the top spirit influence in the Asura Road!

Song Wen's complexion was cold. His eyes exuded a thick killing intent as they locked onto Duke Fullmoon.

The Divine Runic Masters Guild was indeed weaker than Divine Void Divine Kingdom, but they weren't some soft malleable fruit that would buckle at a touch. They controlled a large number of divine runic masters and had a deep divine runic arts legacy. In this aspect, they were nearly the strongest divine runic master organization within the entire inner Asura Road.

Seeing Song Wen's chilling gaze, Duke Fullmoon felt his heart suddenly freeze. Although he knew that Song Wen wasn't his match and the Divine Runic Masters Guild would find it hard to do

anything to him, this look still caused Duke Fullmoon to feel weak at the knees.

He could also feel that because of that brief moment of rage just now, he had been far too crude in his actions. To mention such a sensitive topic in front of everyone was the same as offending the Divine Runic Masters Guild.

He hurriedly said. “Everyone, I apologize for my words just now. I was too hasty with what I said and may have accidentally offended some of you. But, I still hope to verify the source of wealth from the bidder in ordinary room #36... according to what I know, he is less than a hundred years old and doesn’t seem to have a strong influence supporting him from behind, so I cannot believe that he has 2.6 billion points of wealth!”

Duke Fullmoon wasn’t someone who just easily ate a loss and he certainly wouldn’t be a fool and allow Lin Ming to freely con him. If Lin Ming wanted to trick him then he also had to be prepared to face a counterattack.

In this situation, it was naturally impossible for Lin Ming to quietly remain in his room.

Lin Ming opened the door leading outside and stepped into the void as if he were walking on an invisible path, floating high in the sky.

Lin Ming’s appearance immediately attracted everyone’s eyes.

“That’s the person who won the nameless ancient pill!”

“I didn’t think he would be so young.”

“He’s not just young but his cultivation isn’t too high, he’s only at the middle Divine Lord realm! How could such a person have the ability to win the bid for the nameless ancient pill and bid another 1.61 billion for the Violet Gold Spear?”

According to all common sense, it was impossible for a middle Divine Lord realm martial artist to have 2.6 billion points of

wealth. Many people became increasingly skeptical of Lin Ming.

Generally, those with status and great wealth would not bother with doing something so dishonorable as being a bid manipulator.

The bid manipulators that auction houses searched for would often be people without status, and these people would often hide out in VIP suits so that no one knew who they were!

With Lin Ming's age and cultivation, it was inevitable that people would suspect he was one of these people.

Facing everyone's skeptical eyes, Lin Ming thought little of it. He only faintly looked at Duke Fullmoon and said, "You seem to know what my total wealth is? Then you should also know I have around 2 billion points?"

As Lin Ming spoke he flicked his fingers and 19 blood red jade slips flew out from his spatial ring.

These jade slips each represented 100 million points and were especially provided by the Divine Runic Masters Guild.

As these red jade slips floated in the sky, many people felt their eyes go red with greed. Many of them had never seen a 100 million point jade slip in their lives.

However at this time, even though Lin Ming took out these jade slips, many people still eyed him suspiciously. If the Divine Runic Masters Guild were to use him as a 'bid manipulator' then it wouldn't be strange for him to have so many points.

Moreover, this was far less than 2.6 billion.

Facing this scene, Song Wen frowned. He didn't think that there would be such an event midway through the auction.

Duke Fullmoon had already torn apart all pretense of politeness with the Divine Runic Masters Guild. Even though he had apologized for his reckless actions he has still planted a seed of doubt within many people's hearts.

And the one they suspected was Lin Ming. To be so young and have such a low cultivation, it was hard for him to convince anyone.

If this became serious, then the total profit margin of this auction would be affected!

After all, the things sold at Divine Rune City's auction were often 20-30% more expensive than the normal transaction price outside. The reason that people came here to compete for treasures was not because it was cheap but because of the variety of treasures here. There were simply far too many rare and valuable treasures that could be won, many of them surpassingly difficult to find. There was nothing that couldn't be bought, only things that couldn't be afforded.

Thus, even bidding at high prices was something everyone was willing to do.

However, once a 'bid manipulator' appeared, many people would suspect that they were being played as fools. This would be disastrous for the prestige of Divine Rune City's auction.

Song Wen was already considering measures for how to properly handle this matter.

And at this time, Lin Ming's complexion was calm as he rode the tidal wave of attention. Facing the hundreds of thousands of elites in the auction arena, including the massive number of World Kings, Great World Kings, and even Emphyreans, Lin Ming still remained as calm and serene as before.

This sort of calm could not be faked!

"1.9 billion? That doesn't seem to be enough..." Duke Fullmoon had a victorious smile on his face. Although he felt this move of his had been a bit crude and even offended the Divine Runic Masters Guild, the effect was extremely good. He had directly pushed Lin Ming to the opposite side of all bidders, so how could Lin Ming

possibly continue competing with him?

As for offending the Divine Runic Masters Guild, once Duke Fullmoon returned from the final trial he might have built his foundation up enough that he would become an Empyrean in the future. At that time, the Divine Runic Masters Guild could do nothing to him.

“So what if it’s not enough? Do you not know that the payment deadline for Divine Rune City’s auction is ten days after the end of the auction itself? At that time I’ll have raised enough points, so I’ll be able to pay the end amount all the same.”

Lin Ming said as if everything was a matter of course.

Duke Fullmoon was startled as he heard this, then he laughed. “Ten days after the end of the auction is nothing more than a little bit more than a month from now. As a Divine Lord realm martial artist do you really think you can raise 700 million points in a bit more than a month? Do you think others are as stupid as you are?”

The more Duke Fullmoon spoke, the more mocking and reckless his words became. As the audience heard this, all of them were in uproar. They had no idea where this Lin Ming came from, but the more he spoke the more ridiculous and false his words seemed!

Such a scene even caused the normally unflinching Song Wen to feel restless. The situation was slowly spinning out of control.

And at this time, Lin Ming chuckled. He said, “It’s just raising 700 million points in a month. Just because you cannot do this doesn’t mean that no one else can! I thought of selling some things in the auction house a few days from now, but with the current situation I guess I can choose to sell them today.”

As Lin Ming spoke, he traced his spatial ring and 20 light symbol papers flew into the air. These symbol papers were the improved Heavenly Fire Symbol and Heretical God Symbol that Lin Ming created!

Every divine runic symbol had a 'Lin' character on the bottom right corner!

Seeing these 20 divine runic symbols, the entire audience was left befuddled. Just what did this boy mean? Was he saying that these 20 divine runic symbols could be sold for 700 million?!

“He must be joking or something! He is only auctioning those 20 symbol papers? Could those things be worth 700 million points!?”

Lin Ming's symbol papers didn't have a wonderful appearance. The symbol papers he used were top grade symbol papers. For a divine runic symbol, what decided the value was the runic structure within, not the symbol paper itself. Lin Ming naturally wouldn't choose to use such flashy but needlessly expensive goods.

“They don't really look like much... could he have inherited them? Could they be seventh grade divine runic symbols?” Some people suddenly fantasized. Whether it was people or treasures, things couldn't be judged by first glance.

If it were 20 seventh grade divine runic symbols that were drawn up with ridiculously expensive materials, then selling them for 700 million points wouldn't be a problem at all. The price could even surpass that.

Some top seventh grade divine runic symbols could sell for 700 million points. The best seventh grade divine runic symbols were even higher priced than some Empyrean spirit treasures.

However, a divine runic master in the audience shook his head. “You're overthinking things... that is a fifth grade divine runic symbol. I won't misread those energy fluctuations.”

The one speaking was a fifth grade divine runic master. He didn't belong to the Divine Runic Masters Guild but was a subordinate of a large influence. He was a respected and revered individual.

Hearing this fifth grade divine runic master's words, everyone was stunned. These were only fifth grade divine runic symbols?

20 fifth grade divine runic symbols? This fellow called Lin Ming wanted to sell them for a sky-high price of 700 million points?

Was this fellow insane!?

Chapter 1633 – Promissory Note

“Fifth grade divine runic symbols? Are you sure?”

Someone asked the fifth grade divine runic master who spoke with astonishment in their voice.

“Definitely.” The divine runic master stared back at the person ill-humoredly. “I have already been drawing up fifth grade divine runic symbols for over 5000 years, so how would I misread them?”

As the divine runic master spoke, many people saw the divine runic master badge on his chest. Although it wasn’t one issued by the Divine Runic Masters Guild, it still clearly identified him as a fifth grade divine runic master.

Originally, some people thought that the divine runic symbols Lin Ming took out were some top level inheritance he found somewhere, but they were actually so low level!

“He wants to sell fifth grade divine runic symbols on Divine Rune City’s auction stage? Is that boy playing jokes on us?”

“I think he might really be a ‘bid manipulator’ hired by the Divine Runic Masters Guild. He’s probably hired to wildly shout out prices and cause a ruckus to raise bids. This type of person will definitely be jailed by them later. I think that maybe even those 10 blood red jade slips might be fakes!”

If one didn’t understand the divine runic arts, it would be hard to judge whether the jade slips that Lin Ming took out were real or not.

“These people are really annoying brain-dead dogs, I can’t believe they would actually question the legitimacy and value of Big Brother Lin’s divine runic symbols...” Xiao Moxian growled from within the ordinary room.

However, even though she said this she was still feeling uneasy. Just what was the value of these 20 divine runic symbols?

It was true that Lin Ming's revised divine runic symbols were fierce, but there were still only 20 of them.

Towards all these questions and doubts, Lin Ming remained silent. All around him, the divine runic symbols floated up and down, shimmering with a deep brilliance.

But this silence caused the audience's suspicions to be even deeper.

As these people were increasingly crude with their language, a faintly seductive voice echoed out from within the sea of doubts, seemingly especially noticeable.

"The lot of you are truly ignorant and unlearned. Have you never heard of the Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol before?"

This magnetic and captivating voice echoed out from a VIP suite.

Everyone's gaze followed the voice to see a beautiful figure stand out.

"Who is that woman?"

The great majority of people present didn't know of Suya, but they knew that the VIP suite Suya came from was rented by an Empyrean Holy Land. In other words, this woman likely came from an Empyrean Holy Land.

"She is the Extreme Star Holy Lands' Miss Suya. The Extreme Star Holy Lands are at war with the Heaven Strife Holy Lands and Miss Suya is responsible for managing the acquisition of divine runic symbols at the Divine Runic Masters Guild."

Someone who knew Suya explained.

Everyone was startled. Suya could be considered as someone with status. For her to speak out now, her words naturally carried a certain weight to them.

Suya seemed to not hear the discussions around her. Her eyes remained bright and pure throughout. To her, there was no doubt

of Lin Ming's value in her mind, and this was the perfect time to speak out for him. Giving help when needed was always better than attempting flattery later.

Seeing Suyu stand up for him, Lin Ming faintly smiled and politely nodded towards her in the distance, expressing his thanks.

“Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol? What is that?”

Many people were confused. In truth, one couldn't blame them for not knowing. Those that came to Divine Rune City for the auction were either extremely wealthy characters or rulers of their own domains. However, these people were separated by mountains and rivers and many of them weren't too understanding of the world of divine runic masters. And there were also some people that weren't spiritas but were of other races. The Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbols were earth-shaking amongst divine runic masters and particularly in the Divine Runic Masters Guild, but outside martial artists didn't know too much about this.

The inner Asura Road was simply far too large. Even those people with a vast degree of experience would find it hard to know that a small divine runic symbol was able to create such a tremendous change in the war between the Extreme Star Holy Lands and Heaven Strife Holy Lands.

“Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol? This woman seems to value it a great deal?”

Although these people didn't know what the Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol was, if this woman held this divine runic symbol in such high esteem then it was clearly something extraordinary. Did this youth create this divine runic symbol?

As many bidders were whispering their suspicions to each other, Suyu opened her mouth and said, “Sir Lin, if you must compete for the Violet Gold Spear then I can lend you one billion points in advance.”

Although Suyu's voice wasn't loud it still spread through the auction arena like a rolling thunderclap, smashing into everyone's ears. For a time, the noisy auction arena fell silent.

Miss Suyu was going to lend this young divine runic master a billion points?

A billion points was not a small number. To lend this amount so easily, this proved that Suyu clearly trusted this young man named Lin Ming a great deal. She trusted his moral character and trusted in his ability to repay her!

Many people didn't know of the Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol that Suyu spoke of. And even though there were people present who knew what this divine runic symbol was and began explaining its fierceness to others, these other people still only half believed their words.

But now, with Suyu directly lending Lin Ming a billion points, this was clear proof of how valuable this Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol was! If it wasn't then there was no way Suyu would have lent this tremendous amount of money.

At this time, in the VIP suite that Suyu was in, a man that looked to be in his thirties had a very ill complexion. "Junior-apprentice Sister Suyu, please come back in first."

This man was Suyu's senior-apprentice brother and also someone that the Extreme Star Holy Lands sent to Divine Rune City to bid for items in the auction.

With Suyu, the two of them were responsible for winning a material called a 'white birch spirit root'. And this material was something directly named by the Palace Master of Extreme Star Heavenly Palace!

Just what sort of character was the Extreme Star Heavenly Palace Master? His strength was considered top level even amongst Emphyreans and he was the god of the entire Extreme Star Holy

Lands. Normally, just mentioning his name would cause all disciples of the Extreme Star Holy Lands to fall silent.

The reason that Suyu was able to stand out and have such success in the Extreme Star Holy Lands was in truth partially because the Extreme Star Heavenly Palace Master recognized her ability to communicate and negotiate with others.

However, just because the Palace Master recognized Suyu's talents didn't mean that she was allowed to arbitrarily make decisions on her own! The current Extreme Star Holy Lands was stretched for resources. Suyu and her senior-apprentice brother had been given authority to use 2.5 billion points in this auction and this was the personal wealth of the Extreme Star Heavenly Palace Master. This wealth was for the express purpose of acquiring the white birch spirit root, something that the Palace Master needed to upgrade his vital origin magic weapon!

If there were any delays and the Palace Master's enhancement in strength was affected, then Suyu and her senior-apprentice brother could die 10,000 times without being able to make up for it!

Now, Suyu lent out a billion points in a single breath. This left them with just 1.5 billion points, an amount insufficient to win the 'white birch spirit root'!

And according to the rules of the auction, all debts had to be paid in full within 10 days of the auction ending.

If Suyu were to lend these points to Lin Ming and also simultaneously win the 'white birch spirit root', that required Lin Ming to pay back the billion points in a short period of time.

And Lin Ming himself had a great deal of things he needed to buy.

Suyu knew that besides the 2 billion points on Lin Ming's body, he really did only have these 20 divine runic symbols. If Lin Ming had other sources of wealth, why would he have a condition of borrowing 800 million points from the Extreme Star Holy Lands

for taking on the mission of drawing up Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbols?

But Suyu still lent Lin Ming these billion points because she mistakenly believed that he really wanted to purchase this Violet Gold Spear.

After all, Lin Ming was a spear-wielding martial artist and Suyu could approximate that Lin Ming really should trade in the Phoenix Blood Spear he used.

“Junior-apprentice Sister, have you gone mad!?” Suyu’s senior-apprentice brother had an extremely ugly complexion. As he spoke, he was left a bit breathless from anger.

“Senior-apprentice Brother, you must trust me just this one time. Although I haven’t come into contact with Lin Ming much, I have a clear grasp of his character. He never does anything without certain belief that he can accomplish it. In the past I underestimated him a few times. I thought he had taken on missions that were impossible for him to complete, but the result was that I ended up black and blue with shame. In the end, I had to ignore the shame I felt to apologize to him. He is the type of man that will always be true to his word.”

Suyu’s tone indicated she wasn’t worried at all. But, although she seemed calm on the surface, her palms were actually wet with sweat.

At this time she had truly made a great gamble. She was betting everything on the hope that Lin Ming could create a miracle with those 20 divine runic symbols.

Suyu had already thoroughly investigated Lin Ming’s background and discovered that he was someone who couldn’t even be described as a freakishly monstrous genius.

Over 20 years ago he had only been a talented third grade divine runic master. But after just a mere 20 some years, he was able to

create the Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol that not even Shadow Overflow was able to unravel.

There was absolutely a secret hidden on Lin Ming's body!

However, even though Suyu made repeated assurances, her senior-apprentice brother turned a deaf ear to all of this. "Junior-apprentice Sister, you have become obsessed with phantoms. I do not agree with you lending out these points. Stepping back, even if Lin Ming could really use those 20 divine runic symbols to earn back the points, Honorable Master will still punish us because we arbitrarily used the points he gave us for buying the white birch spirit root for other purposes. This is a grave crime that you are committing."

As Suyu's senior-apprentice brother was speaking, Lin Ming suddenly smiled. "Thank you Miss Suyu, but the auction for this Violet Gold Spear has yet to end, thus the auction of my divine runic symbols must be after the Violet Gold Spear. Mister Song, do you think... you can arrange it for me?"

Lin Ming said, turning towards Song Wen.

Song Wen narrowed his eyes as he looked at the divine runic symbols in Lin Ming's hand. Although he could feel that there was something extraordinary about them, he thought the entire situation was absurd. Even if he knew about the Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbols, no matter how heaven-defying Lin Ming's new divine runic symbols were, it was impossible to sell 20 of them for several hundred millions of points. After all, they were only fifth grade divine runic symbols.

"Little Brother Lin..."

Song Wen had a look of embarrassment on his face. He was afraid that Lin Ming was too overconfident in his abilities and had set the base price for his divine runic symbols too high. If no one were to end up bidding on them then that would truly be a joke.

Lin Ming naturally knew what Song Wen was thinking. He smiled and said, “Mister Song, feel relieved that I am not just auctioning these 20 divine runic symbols. I am also auctioning promissory notes for more. I can sell hundreds or even a thousand. Whoever is willing to purchase in advance, whoever pays.”

As Lin Ming spoke, many bidders almost fell off their chairs.

Promissory notes!? Purchase in advance!?

For several hundred million points to only buy a promissory note? Who did he think he was? Only an idiot would buy these!

Since this auction first began, no one had ever heard of taking money first to buy a promissory note!

Chapter 1634 – 1.99 Billion

Lin Ming's repeated requests and conditions caused even Song Wen to frown.

This was an extremely large transaction and many people were still unfamiliar with Lin Ming's name. Even in the world of divine runic arts, Lin Ming wasn't a widely known individual.

Outside of that, almost no one knew of him.

A junior that was less than a hundred years old and who only had a Divine Lord realm cultivation actually wanted to sell promissory notes in advance; just who would believe him?

Lin Ming simply didn't have any credibility built up at all. In this situation, who would buy the empty promises of a junior for 700-800 million or even a billion points!

"Suya, did you hear him!? He wants to sell a few promissory notes, do you still believe him? How will he do that? It's possible that the Divine Runic Masters Guild doesn't even allow an 'auction item' like that on the auction stage. To sell promissory notes for a billion points, he is taking us all for fools!"

Suya's senior-apprentice brother felt that Lin Ming had gone crazy.

However, Suya tried her best to show a calm expression. "So what if it's a promissory note, did you forget that when Lin Ming requested to borrow 800 million points from the Extreme Star Holy Lands, we still lent him money all the same!"

"That is completely different! We had already obtained the 2000 Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbols by then and we also know who Lin Ming is! Do you think these other influences here know just who Lin Ming is? If points are so easy to obtain then I might as well write up a promissory note myself and write 10 Empyrean spirit treasures on it and see just who will buy it!"

After randomly lending a billion points, it wasn't a surprise that Suyu's senior-apprentice brother was so agitated.

In fact, Suyu's heart was rapidly beating like a drum solo right now. Lin Ming actually dared to sell promissory notes at Divine Rune City's grand auction. This was truly an unprecedented event that would likely not be copied in the future.

As Suyu was lost in thought, she felt an icy cold gaze land on her, causing her to shiver.

She turned to see that the one sending her a chilling gaze was Duke Fullmoon!

At this time, Duke Fullmoon's face was grim and cold. As he looked at Suyu, the previous hints of appreciation and desire in his eyes had disappeared and were replaced by a gloomy killing intent.

If it weren't for Suyu appearing from nowhere, Lin Ming wouldn't have had the chance to compete for the Violet Gold Spear with him!

Because the auction for the Violet Gold Spear had already started, Lin Ming's auction of his divine runic symbols wouldn't yet begin. It was unknown whether or not it would be carried out. If Lin Ming said that he would sell those divine runic symbols for a billion points, who would believe him?

Without genuine financial support, Lin Ming wouldn't be able to randomly shout out whatever price he wanted to. Let alone Duke Fullmoon opposing this, not even the Divine Runic Masters Guild would approve! This was a great taboo of the auction house.

But it just so happened that at this time Suyu offered to lend Lin Ming a billion points, allowing him to continue competing. This meant that Duke Fullmoon would have to bleed even more!

How could Duke Fullmoon not hate Suyu for this.

"Suyu, how ruthless of you! I've treated you so well and yet you've done this to me!"

Duke Fullmoon's arctic sound transmission echoed in Suyu's ears.

Suyu's heart skipped a beat. She quietly responded, "I apologize deeply Duke Fullmoon. I received an Extreme Star Command that ordered me to support Lin Ming with everything I could during this auction. I had no other choice but to comply."

Suyu's response was quick. She came up with a reason and pushed all responsibility onto the Extreme Star Holy Lands and showed an involuntary expression. Even though Duke Fullmoon had a deep background he still couldn't do anything to the Extreme Star Holy Lands.

Suyu's words left Duke Fullmoon in half-belief and half-doubt. Had Lin Ming's value already risen to such a degree?

He silently flew back to his VIP suite. His dire expression scared Junior-apprentice Sister Qing, making her keep silent without saying a single word

She knew that the current Duke Fullmoon was already enraged to the limit. He could even strike out and kill people at any moment!

Like this, the auction for the Violet Gold Spear continued. Suyu and Lin Ming both began moving back to their rooms.

As Lin Ming was turning around, Suyu looked at him with deep and trembling emotion in her eyes, her voice exhausted and enchanting as she said with a sound transmission, "Sir Lin, to help you win this Violet Gold Spear I have paid a price in blood. Not only have I offended Duke Fullmoon but I even must fear the potential punishment of the Palace Master because I arbitrarily used the funds he gave us to purchase the white birch spirit root. In the future, you must repay me..."

Although Suyu's breathy words seemed suspect, Lin Ming knew that what she said was true. Even Lin Ming thought that Suyu had been too reckless in helping him. These two prices she had to pay

were indeed heavy!

However... even though Suyu had made such a great bet, the truth was that she didn't know that Lin Ming had no intention of buying the Violet Gold Spear to begin with. He was only doing this to trick Duke Fullmoon!

Thinking of this, Lin Ming awkwardly rubbed his nose. He couldn't help but wonder: just what would Suyu say once she realized this?

However, with a new actor like Suyu entering the field, he could continue wildly shouting out any price he wanted. This also meant that Duke Fullmoon would think he absolutely wanted to win this spear!

Suyu was returning, but her senior-apprentice brother didn't intend to yet.

Lin Ming saw the increasingly poor complexion of Suyu's senior-apprentice brother and said, "This friend, there is no need for you to worry about this matter. You only need to pretend as if you are willing to lend me a billion points so no one questions whether I can continue competing for this Violet Gold Spear. If my promissory notes do not sell then later you do not need to lend me anything. At that time, the Divine Runic Masters Guild will only punish me and not you."

Lin Ming's thoughts on the matter were extremely clear. As Suyu's senior-apprentice brother heard this, he was startled. He looked at Lin Ming with surprise.

Indeed, as long as they just made the gesture of lending the points then it would be fine. Like this, no one would question whether or not Lin Ming had enough points and the remaining risks would all be taken by him. If Lin Ming wasn't able to pay the points later then they could simply ignore him. The only loss to them would be a little bit of their reputation.

Although Suyu's senior-apprentice brother didn't believe that Lin Ming's promissory notes could sell at such a ridiculously high price, he didn't doubt Lin Ming's skill. To lose a bit of reputation to win over Lin Ming, that was completely worth it.

Thinking of this, he nodded and agreed to 'lend' Lin Ming a billion points.

Seeing Suyu's senior-apprentice brother considering the situation again and again before nodding, Lin Ming felt it somewhat funny. He didn't think that something as minor as this auction for the Violet Gold Spear would actually stir up such a giant commotion.

But since the play had already begun, it would be a waste to not bring it to its end. With so many actors joining in on this play, wouldn't it be an insult to their superb performances if he didn't thoroughly damage Duke Fullmoon's finances?

Thus, before Lin Ming returned to his private room, he asked the auctioneer Song Wen. "Mister Song, is it my turn to make a bid now?"

Song Wen was stunned for a moment before nodding. "Because of Duke Fullmoon's question just now, the auction for the Violet Gold Spear was temporarily suspended. But now that Sir Lin has borrowed a billion points, you naturally have the qualifications to continue bidding."

"Great!"

Lin Ming faintly smiled. He looked towards Duke Fullmoon's direction and said, "Duke Fullmoon, since you increased the bid by 200 million just now, then let me express my gratitude and increase the bid by 200 million again. 1.8 billion!"

Lin Ming's voice was light. He spoke as if these 1.8 billion points were nothing but a drop in the bucket to him!

"Express his gratitude..."

"He increased the bid by another 200 million..."

This tone could simply aggravate one to death. If one didn't know of Lin Ming's current situation they might think he had 10 billion points to spend!

In the VIP suites, as Duke Fullmoon heard Lin Ming's voice, his complexion darkened and his lungs nearly exploded with rage!

Shouting out a new bid was fine, but Lin Ming had to use such an indifferent tone like he didn't care at all!

In this, Duke Fullmoon couldn't compare. It was impossible for him to remain calm at 1.8 billion points. This was 200 million points higher than his original limit for the Violet Gold Spear!

At this time, all of the bidders in the arena looked towards the luxury suite that Duke Fullmoon was situated in.

They were waiting to see whether he would increase the bid or give up.

"Guest #36 has bid 1.8 billion. Is there anyone willing to bid a higher price?"

Song Wen asked as per usual, looking through the entire audience. Although he asked everyone, the truth was that his question was only for Duke Fullmoon. His voice was also much more restrained. In truth, there was no need to sound passionate and stir up a frenzy, because Duke Fullmoon's rage had been ignited and he couldn't be any more passionate or frenzied.

Duke Fullmoon was so mad his intestines twisted in his stomach. He wished that he could cut up Lin Ming to tiny pieces. And at this time, whether he wanted to or not, it was impossible for Duke Fullmoon to retreat. This was not a question of face or pride, but because he really did need this Violet Gold Spear.

"1.8 billion... and... 20 million..."

Duke Fullmoon grit his teeth.

Even just adding 10 million caused Duke Fullmoon's heart to drip

blood. All of this was thanks to Lin Ming!

“1.82 billion! Is there a higher bid?”

Song Wen looked towards Lin Ming’s room.

Without missing a beat, Lin Ming said with a devil-may-care attitude, “1.99 billion.”

When Lin Ming’s new price erupted, let alone Duke Fullmoon, even the entire arena audience was left shaking in their seats.

Lin Ming put out a bid of 1.99 billion and the meaning behind it was extremely clear. Many people believed Lin Ming had 2 billion points to begin with, and with Suyu lending him a billion, this was 3 billion altogether.

With 1.01 billion deducted from the auction of the nameless ancient pill, this meant that Lin Ming had 1.99 billion left.

In other words, Lin Ming putting out this bid was to say that this was all he had. He was telling Duke Fullmoon that if Duke Fullmoon had the resources to overcome this bid, then the item was his!

This move was sufficiently ruthless!

Many people admired Lin Ming’s courage and boldness. If the average person borrowed a billion points they would be greedy and fearful in case they couldn’t return it. But as for Lin Ming, he spent these borrowed billion points as if they weren’t even money. Even the 2 billion points of wealth he accumulated before were freely spent!

To shout a bid of 1.99 billion without even blinking an eye, just who could match this daring?

“Almost 2 billion, this is incredible. Whether or not this Lin Ming is a madman, he’ll become famous today!”

Normally, it was amazing for an Empyrean spirit treasure to be sold for a billion points.

Now one was being sold for twice the price. If it were an Emphyrean buying it, then it wouldn't be a problem at all.

But in most situations, only a World King would buy an Emphyrean spirit treasure. For a Great World King to buy an Emphyrean spirit treasure, they would nearly lose all of their assets to do so, much less this was twice the normal price!

Chapter 1635 – Auction of the Heavenly Fire Symbol

“Big Brother Lin, you’ve put up all of the money you have... aren’t you scared that fly won’t follow you?”

Xiao Moxian asked Lin Ming with a true essence sound transmission. She knew that Lin Ming was trying to con Duke Fullmoon, but since Lin Ming had put forth such a high price now, she feared that Duke Fullmoon wouldn’t follow up with another bid. If so, Lin Ming would have struck himself in the face!

Lin Ming laughed. “I really am a little scared, but Duke Fullmoon is too obsessed with winning that spear. He shouldn’t be too fearful of following up. 2 billion, when compared to the 1.6 billion he was willing to pay before, is only 400 million more.”

Lin Ming believed that since Duke Fullmoon was willing to shout out 1.6 billion to buy the Violet Gold Spear, then he should definitely have more than 1.6 billion in wealth. He definitely had the resources to follow up with 2 billion!

But before this, in order to buy that spear at the price he wanted, Duke Fullmoon didn’t even hesitate to offend the Divine Runic Masters Guild. This proved that Duke Fullmoon had an unsurpassed desire for the Violet Gold Spear!

Stepping back, even in a worst case situation where Duke Fullmoon no longer bid, Lin Ming still found it acceptable if he won the Violet Gold Spear. This spear could indeed be extremely useful to him and Lin Ming could rapidly earn the points needed for it.

“1.99 billion, is there anyone willing to place a higher bid?” Song Wen shouted out. His voice remained calm and frenzied, because there was no need for him to stir up the current tense situation.

Everyone looked towards Duke Fullmoon’s VIP Suite, many of

them sympathizing with him.

“This damned madman!” Duke Fullmoon gripped his fists together as if he were crushing something in his palm. As Lin Ming thought, his total wealth did exceed 2 billion, but he had other uses for it. If he were to spend it all on the Violet Gold Spear then he would really lose everything.

“1.99 billion going once!” Song Wen began to count down. Even the worldly and sophisticated Song Wen really thought that Lin Ming wanted to buy the Violet Gold Spear. In truth, he was also rooting for Lin Ming because Lin Ming was a part of their Divine Runic Masters Guild. But as the auctioneer, he needed to follow rules and make sure each countdown lasted for at least five breaths of time.

“1.99 billion going twice...”

Song Wen trailed off.

At this time, a somber voice sounded out from Duke Fullmoon’s room.

“Two... billion...”

In shouting out this price, Duke Fullmoon seemed to have exhausted the last dregs of his strength. For this spear he had really used up everything!

However, when comparing spending all his money to losing the Violet Gold Spear, losing the Violet Gold Spear was absolutely a greater attack on Duke Fullmoon. He could slowly save up his wealth but if he missed out on obtaining the best result he could in the final trial, that would have a direct effect on Duke Fullmoon’s strength and future.

Hearing Duke Fullmoon shout out this price, Lin Ming grinned. In this battle between Lin Ming and Duke Fullmoon to see who could con the other, Lin Ming had thoroughly won.

This was not because Lin Ming was smarter than Duke Fullmoon,

but because Lin Ming accurately predicted that Duke Fullmoon had to obtain this Violet Gold Spear no matter what, while not needing the nameless ancient pill.

As for Duke Fullmoon, he only knew that Lin Ming needed the nameless ancient pill; he didn't know that Lin Ming didn't have any interest in winning the Violet Gold Spear.

Thus, Duke Fullmoon was doomed to be the one cruelly swindled by Lin Ming.

At this time, a woman's voice echoed out in Lin Ming's ear. "Sir Lin, he really did bid 2 billion. If you wish to bid further I can lend you some more points..."

This was Suyu's sound transmission. After Lin Ming had revealed himself to the public he didn't reactivate the isolating array formations around his room, so it was easy for Suyu's voice to penetrate into his quarters.

Lin Ming smiled. "No need. I never planned on buying the Violet Gold Spear to begin with. 2 billion points should be the limit. If I bid again then Fullmoon really might give up."

After the dust settled, Lin Ming had no need to hide anything from Suyu. From start to finish, his voice remained calm throughout, as if he hadn't been in a dramatic auction that involved 2 billion points but was only playing a little numbers game.

Suyu nearly choked on herself as she heard Lin Ming's response. After being stunned for a long period of time, the normally elegant Suyu lost her demeanor and stammered out, "You... you... you are trying to trick Duke Fullmoon!?"

She didn't dare to believe that Lin Ming would make a bluff of 1.99 billion points just for tricking someone! Wasn't he afraid that Duke Fullmoon wouldn't follow him? But, the reality was that Duke Fullmoon had fallen for the bait and had been thoroughly

ruined by Lin Ming.

In addition, Suyu also felt a tad aggrieved. She had withstood a tremendous deal of pressure to lend a billion points that Lin Ming actually didn't need.

Hearing Suyu's awkward reaction, Lin Ming chuckled. "I apologize Miss Suyu. I didn't anticipate that Duke Fullmoon's response would be so intense that he would actually label me a bid manipulator and even involve you in the mess. But since things already happened, I figured I might as well continue until the end.

As Lin Ming spoke, Suyu actually laughed. She had no idea why she was laughing but she continued laughing for a long period of time. Then, she blinked her eyes and said, "Is this considered you owing me a favor?"

"Uh..." Lin Ming's froze. "If Miss Suyu needs help in the future, then I will surely help as long as it is within my ability to do so."

At this time, Song Wen had already counted to three. The Violet Gold Spear was successfully won by Duke Fullmoon!

Hearing Song Wen announce the end of the auction, Duke Fullmoon let out a long breath of relief, feeling weak throughout his body.

This was a purchase that involved a massive amount of his total wealth!

But in the end, he had been the one to win!

He shakily stood up, slowly wandering towards the windows and looking out in the direction Lin Ming was in. Lin Ming seemed to sense this and looked towards Duke Fullmoon.

In contrast to each other, Duke Fullmoon was the victor. Although it was a bitter and hard fought victory, he was still the one who won. He wanted to temporarily suppress the pain in his heart and put on a victorious pose.

But just as Duke Fullmoon was almost prepared to smile, the touch of a smile froze on his face.

He saw Xiao Moxian appear from behind Lin Ming. Compared to the relatively indifferent expression on Lin Ming's face, Xiao Moxian was giggling as if she could barely contain her mirth.

Her two shiny canines, beneath the lights of the magic arrays, shimmered like diamonds.

This caused a bad premonition to rise within Duke Fullmoon's heart!

Xiao Moxian's smile was filled with an unmistakable taunting, as if she were laughing at an idiot.

Then, Duke Fullmoon saw Xiao Moxian's cherry red lips move as she uttered words. Even though she was silent, with Duke Fullmoon's eyesight he was able to clearly read her lips.

She was saying, "You stupid dead fly, congratulations for spending 2 billion points on an inferior item with defective runes. If you need to fix the Heavenly Dao patterns in the future, then our Lin Ming will surely be willing to help you. The fee isn't too expensive and we'll make sure that you are satisfied with the service!"

Listening to these words, Duke Fullmoon felt his blood bubbling within him. His mind was overcome with a daze as he nearly fell over!

"Defective!?"

Duke Fullmoon didn't believe Xiao Moxian's words. The Violet Gold Spear was already confirmed to be an Empyrean spirit treasure. How could the weapon that an Empyrean spent so much time and effort to raise be a defective item!?

However, whether or not Xiao Moxian's words were true, Duke Fullmoon had almost affirmed that Lin Ming never wanted to buy this Violet Gold Spear to begin with. He had simply been tricked!

Realizing this point, a brilliant killing intent burst out from Duke Fullmoon's eyes. However, standing not too far away from the increasingly gloomy Duke Fullmoon, Xiao Moxian was smiling, extremely happy and pleased with herself.

Lin Ming reluctantly pulled on Xiao Moxian's hand and simultaneously activated the room's isolating array formation, cutting off the murderous gaze of World King Fullmoon.

He used his finger to tap on Xiao Moxian's nose, jokingly saying, "You really are too childish, are you not happy unless you tell him off? Well this is enough for now. He was a mad dog originally and now he's been upgraded to a crazy wolf."

Although Lin Ming's words seemed as if he were admonishing Xiao Moxian, his smile clearly indicated he wasn't scared of Duke Fullmoon's revenge.

In the past when Lin Ming was only a small figure at the Houtian realm, he had caused Xuan Wuji, the ruler of the South Sea Demon Region, to vomit blood in anger. Afterwards when he was at the Life Destruction realm he had been targeted by Yang Yun. Even when he flew up to the Divine Realm he had ruined the Great World King Tian Mingzi's hand at the Divine Sea realm.

All of the opponents Lin Ming offended in the past had been far more powerful than he had been. And, these people had all been slowly killed off using various methods.

Now that Lin Ming faced Duke Fullmoon who he wasn't much weaker than, he simply didn't care at all.

After being 'admonished' by Lin Ming, Xiao Moxian only laughed out loud once more. She clucked her tongue and said, "Hey, if we didn't tell that big head what happened then how would he be angry at us? Otherwise, that idiot might have thought he profited here."

The auction continued on. Lin Ming closed his eyes in

meditation. Following this, there weren't any items able to arouse his interest.

The last auction item for this first round of the auction event was a set of Empyrean spirit treasure flying swords.

Empyrean spirit treasures were rare, and a complete set of Empyrean spirit treasures was even rarer.

This set of flying swords had a total of seven swords and was bought at a final price of 2.8 billion by three Great World Kings working together. Compared to the Violet Gold Spear, this wasn't much more expensive. This caused Duke Fullmoon to be even angrier at what happened.

Like this, the first round of the auctions ended. From start to finish, the two Empyreans hadn't bid on anything at all. It was clear that none of these treasures were able to arouse their interest. The most valuable items of the first auction round had been Empyrean spirit treasures and pills. Even that final set of flying swords wasn't too tempting to an Empyrean. What an Empyrean was mostly interested in was rare and precious materials and heavenly treasures.

After the first round of the auctions ended, Lin Ming found Song Wen and requested that he place the Heavenly Fire Symbols up for auction.

To sell promissory notes, if it were an ordinary person who suggested this, Song Wen would have already told him to screw off to the far edges of the world.

But Lin Ming was different. He had considerable status in the Divine Runic Masters Guild and everyone could see that he had an extremely bright future awaiting him. It was possible that he might even become the next president of the Divine Runic Masters Guild!

Towards this type of person, Song Wen could only give them a

little leeway. Moreover, the Heavenly Fire Symbols that Lin Ming put forth were appraised by several divine runic masters, and when it came to the runic patterns within, they could only sigh as they didn't understand many parts of it. Without a doubt, the Heavenly Fire Symbols that Lin Ming took out were extraordinary.

After combining all of this together, Song Wen finally reluctantly agreed to allow Lin Ming to auction off the 10 finished Heavenly Fire symbols. If the final price of them surpassed 40 million then he would allow Lin Ming to auction off promissory notes. This was to avoid everyone making a joke of Divine Rune City's auction.

And Song Wen had one final condition. This was that the promissory notes couldn't have a base price. In other words, the base price had to be zero!

Chapter 1636 – Test

To have a zero base price on promissory notes, the truth was that Divine Rune City didn't want the associated infamy. The general meaning of it was that all transactions for this auction were completely voluntary. The base price would be set to zero and whoever wanted to bid could bid whatever they wanted and the Divine Rune City Auction House would take on no responsibility for this matter.

Although the Divine Rune City Auction didn't publicize the auction of the 'promissory notes' and had no intention of doing so, they had still made it explicitly clear that the auction of the promissory notes would not take place if Lin Ming's 10 Heavenly Fire Symbols sold for less than 40 million. Even so, news of this auction still spread through the city!

Moreover, this news spread like wildfire!

Many martial artists and many influences learned that the Divine Rune City Auction, which was famed throughout the entire inner Asura Road for having anything up for sale as long as one had the money, was actually selling promissory notes.

Moreover, what left one dumbstruck was that the person selling these promissory notes was a Divine Lord realm junior who was less than a hundred years old!

And, this Divine Lord realm junior also didn't have any great influence backing him. He was nothing but a loner, and although there was said to be an amazing master standing behind him, this master had never appeared.

He had seemingly produced a mysterious divine runic symbol and was considerably well known in the world of divine runic arts. But outside of this small community, there hadn't been anyone who had heard of him.

If such a junior were to write down a promissory note and sell it, then others would definitely say that whoever bought this promissory note was an idiot.

If one could sell empty promises at an auction then they too would want to do the same!

They could write down a promissory note for 10 Emphyrean spirit treasures, 10 transcendent divine pills, or even 100 seventh grade divine runic symbols, and would they be able to sell this note for 10 billion points?

Many other colleagues in the auction industry were waiting to have a good laugh at Divine Rune City Auction House's expense.

The business of auction houses was highly competitive. The more transactions an auction house had, the more sky high prices they could sell items for, then the more clients and bidders they could attract! Clients would always want to go to an auction house that would auction off their items at the highest price possible! There were many auction houses that could find buyers but not a source of goods!

Divine Rune City Auction House was extremely reputable and even if other auction houses worked together and hired a batch of bid manipulators, they still couldn't shake the iron-fisted monopoly that Divine Rune City Auction House held over the auction business. And now, these other auction houses were all waiting for the Divine Rune City Auction House to fail.

However, no matter what the news was or how many people were waiting to see this bumbling failure occur, the second round of the auctions began on time.

This time, there were even more bidders on the scene.

Many people heard about the sale of promissory notes and wanted to join in on this new experience.

Lin Ming and Xiao Moxian had already entered the auction arena

earlier. As they were about to enter their private room, Lin Ming could feel a swift and violent cold light shoot towards them. Lin Ming turned to see Duke Fullmoon appearing like a vengeful ghost in the windows of his VIP suite. The light inside his room was dark, causing Duke Fullmoon to look especially grim and ghostly.

“This stupid fly also came early. But he’s already gone bankrupt so what’s the point of putting on airs.” Xiao Moxian pouted her lips, speaking with disdain.

Lin Ming faintly smiled. “He’s also representing his sect to purchase items, so he likely still has many points in his hands.”

Lin Ming didn’t bother with Duke Fullmoon and went straight to his private room. As he flew up into the skies, many people were looking towards him. By this time, Lin Ming had already become famous!

Today, if he could sell the Heavenly Fire Symbols for at least 40 million then he would be able to accomplish the unprecedentedly magnificent feat of selling promissory notes. But if he sold the Heavenly Fire Symbols for less than 40 million he would become an utter joke.

The first item in the second round of the auctions was 10 zenith black level god runes.

Zenith black level god runes were necessary materials for crafting seventh grade divine runic symbols. There were even some peak sixth grade divine runic symbols that required zenith black level god runes. Thus, these 10 zenith black level god runes were in high demand. In the end, they were bought by a peak sixth grade divine runic master in the VIP suites.

Following that, all sorts of different items were sold. At the sixth auction, Song Wen calmly took out a jade box. After opening it, one could see 10 light and thin symbol papers within.

These were Lin Ming’s Heavenly Fire Symbols!

During the previous round of auctions, Lin Ming had taken out the Heavenly Fire Symbols once, thus many people were able to recognize what these 10 symbol papers were.

“It’s here! Haha, to sell promissory notes, I came today just to watch this event!”

“He’s been crazy after thinking of money too much; to think he actually dares to sell promissory notes!”

All of these words came from spies sent from other auction houses in the inner Asura Road. Now they mixed themselves into the crowds of bidders and their mission was to gather as much information as they could so they could later propagandize this ridiculous matter.

Towards these people beneath the arena stage that had ill intentions, Song Wen ignored them all. He indifferently said, “Ladies and gentleman, these are fifth grade divine runic symbols, Heavenly Fire Symbols produced by a young and rising talent of my Divine Runic Masters Guild. In the last round of auctions you all saw that these were not ordinary Heavenly Fire Symbols. These Heavenly Fire Symbols have undergone many improvements and their effects are far superior to normal. For these 10 Heavenly Fire Symbols, the base price is 20 million points and each increase cannot be any lower than one million points.”

Song Wen lightly spoke these words that had no persuasive power at all. Young and rising divine runic master, many improvements, effects far superior to normal, all of these words seemed untrustworthy to the audience.

And, the most absurd point was that these 10 fifth grade divine runic symbols were being sold for a total scam price of 20 million points!

Fifth grade divine runic symbols usually sold for tens of thousands, and buying 10 of them for a million points was already a tremendous loss. Yet, Song Wen listed the base price of these 10

divine runic symbols as 20 times that ridiculous price.

Setting up such a starting bid was simply a death wish. Many people were looking to see which idiot would bid on these.

However, Song Wen didn't start the auction. Rather, he pressed some switch on the auction stage and with a loud rumbling sound, the entire auction stage was split apart as the ground sank in.

At the same time, a massive black altar slowly rose from the ground!

This black altar was an array formation!

Its use was to test the various characteristics, might, and attributes of a divine runic symbol.

In the Divine Rune City Auction House, sometimes there would be special divine runic symbols sold. At this time, these divine runic symbols would need to be tested in order to demonstrate the various aspects of a divine runic symbol.

Hu - !

With a powerful grinding noise, the array formation activated!

The entire altar was shrouded in a shimmering white light. A chubby old man with a white beard guffawed as he hopped onto the altar. This old man was no one else but Lin Ming's old friend – Old Xue.

At this auction, Lin Ming specifically asked Old Xue to test the divine runic symbol!

Chapter 1637 – Heavenly Fire Symbol

Old Xue's appearance immediately attracted the gazes of everyone present.

“Who is that old man?” Most of the audience didn't know who Old Xue was.

“He is Elder Xue of the Divine Runic Masters Guild, a sixth grade divine runic master.”

The reputation of a sixth grade divine runic master was irreproachable. To have a sixth grade divine runic master test a fifth grade divine runic symbol, this left everyone waiting for the results with wide eyes.

Although they didn't know if these fifth grade divine runic symbols could sell for tens of millions of points, if Lin Ming had dared take them out in this auction then they should be spectacular.

At this point, Song Wen took out a soul crystal and placed it in the eye of the testing array formation. In that instant the brilliant light around the altar became even more blazing, shooting up into the world like a column of evanescent light, scattering out everywhere.

The auction arena was extremely broad, but after the array formation on the auction stage activated, the dazzling light covered the entire auction hall arena!

This was a titanic illusory magic array. Once it started, every person within the auction hall arena would fall into the illusory magic array and would find it difficult to discern between reality and illusion.

Boom - !

The scenery in front of everyone suddenly changed.

What entered the eyes of everyone was an endless sea of green foliage that stretched to the furthest horizons.

They were surrounded by dense grass that brushed against the waist, vast and limitless.

Every guest in the auction house, including those in the ordinary rooms and VIP suites, instantly arrived in an ancient primal grassland!

Here, the scene was like the endless Great Desolate that parted the inner and outer Asura Road.

And within these grasslands, the earth began to tremble.

From far away, one could see massive forms appear on the horizon. These forms were like mountains as their vague figures solidified as they closed in.

Rumble rumble rumble!

As these giant monsters approached, the audience discovered they were all vicious beasts.

Their bodies were as heavy as mountains. Every time they stepped forwards the ground would shake like a beating drum, incomparably horrifying.

“That... that... that is a deep blue crystal beast. I heard that two Divine Lord squads from the Blue Lotus Holy Lands perished, and it was likely they encountered a deep blue crystal beast...”

“Seafall beast...”

“Mystic thunder beast...”

“That... that is a Golden Phoenix Crow... it is a variation God Beast that has existed since ancient times and is said to be able to contend with a Great World King and emit true essence heavenly flames...”

As each vicious beast appeared they were soon identified by the audience. With each new creature that arrived, the audience

became increasingly pale. These vicious beasts were all found within the Great Desolate!

In particular, the giant Golden Phoenix Crow whose wings blocked out half the sky. As the audience saw this beast, their complexions became even uglier.

Although everyone was well aware that these vicious beasts were only phantoms produced in the illusory magic array, each one of these phantom beasts had extraordinary strengths.

Each bidder was able to clearly perceive the aura of these vicious beasts. They could judge that these vicious beasts were not superficial fakes. Rather, by relying on the accurate simulation of the large-scale array formation, the defensive powers of these vicious beasts were almost the same as in reality.

“Elder Xue, please test the divine runic symbol.” Song Wen was a bit surprised as he saw that Elder Xue had stepped forth to test the divine runic symbol. To ask a divine runic master like Elder Xue to personally test his creation, Lin Ming must be confident in his works.

Elder Xue nodded and happily took a divine runic symbol from Lin Ming who had already flown down from his room. He asked, “Before the test begins, are there any special instructions you need to tell me?”

Lin Ming thought for a moment and said, “During the test it’s best to be careful. When the input of power reaches through the 2320th tiny rune, increase the flow of energy. The effect will be much better.”

“2320th tiny rune?” Elder Xue was startled. After a brief pause he nodded.

Standing on the side, Song Wen’s complexion immediately changed. Although he didn’t understand how to draw up divine runic symbols himself, he was still the president of the Runic Pill

Trading Organization. Even if he had never eaten pork meat before he would still know how a pig ran.

He had seen sixth grade divine runic symbols before, and the average peak sixth grade divine runic symbol would have around 1500 tiny runes, yet this mere fifth grade divine runic symbol had over 2000 tiny runes?

It seemed this Heavenly Fire Symbol was well worth anticipating.

However, the spies that came from other auction houses, as long as they understood even a little about divine runic arts, were surprised by Lin Ming's words. Shadow Overflow frowned. This brat, the divine runic symbols he drew up were always so ridiculous!

"I want to take a good look and see just what sort of effect a divine runic symbol with so many tiny runes will have!"

Judging the value of a divine runic symbol, especially an extraordinary divine runic symbol, was an extremely complex and burdensome process.

The average person only knew whether a divine runic symbol was strong or weak, and that was by looking at its grade. But when looking at those especially amazing divine runic symbols that had special effects, although the grade of the divine runic symbol was important, it wasn't the most important factor.

The reason that Elder Xue agreed to help Lin Ming and test out his divine runic symbol was the shockingly special Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol that Lin Ming produced before. He wanted to see what was so special about this new divine runic symbol.

Like an entertainer preparing his show, Elder Xue began to take out all sorts of strange magic tools and array discs in front of everyone.

One of these magic tools was a set of black gloves, knit with mysterious silken threads.

“I shall begin.” Elder Xue nodded towards Lin Ming.

As Song Wen heard this he drew some circles in the air. Then, ripples began to appear in the void.

Thick and viscous bubbles surrounded everyone, covering them within.

The reason for this was that there was always some risk that came with testing a divine runic symbol. As the auctioneer here, Song Wen had to minimize all chances of an accident occurring as much as possible.

Once all the preparations were complete, Elder Xue no longer bothered with the others. He completely immersed his mind into the fifth grade divine runic symbol in his hands, carefully filling it with his energy.

Looking in from the side, as Lin Ming saw Old Xue earnestly testing his divine runic symbol, he felt a bit unsure in his heart. Although he was confident in the improved Heavenly Fire Symbol that he created, the true might and value of it would depend on the actual results of this test.

Everyone’s eyes focused on Elder Xue’s body, all of them waiting with breath abated.

They were all aware that if this test wasn’t a joke, then they would be witnesses to the birth of a miracle.

As Elder Xue was inputting his energy into the improved Heavenly Fire Symbol, his complexion began to gradually become more dignified over time. After such a long period of time, there was actually no movement from the Heavenly Fire Symbol!

Shadow Overflow grinned a gloating smile. Smelly brat, this time it was his turn to suffer...

But that gloating smile soon froze on his face. Deep in concentration, Elder Xue flicked a finger upon the divine runic symbol, seeming as if he were pulling out a string. Then, a blazing red trail of fire rushed out from the divine runic symbol.

This power of fire flew in the skies like a phoenix, a beautiful vision in the air. Suddenly, the surrounding space seemed to bubble up like boiling water.

Shadow Overflow felt that something wasn't right. At this time, five of the giant vicious beasts that Song Wen created suddenly started rushing towards Elder Xue together.

“Deep blue crystal beast, bone devouring beast... these are all peak Holy Lord level beasts, even beasts that approach a World King. With these several vicious beasts together, even an ordinary World King would feel fear!”

As the vicious beasts wildly rampaged forwards, the entire audience could feel a dreadful pressure. Even if they knew these vicious beasts were formed by the illusory magic array, their aura was still horrifying.

This was also the fierceness of an auction house's array formation. This array formation could be called the most realistic simulation testing array within the entire inner Asura Road.

At this time, a brilliant light exploded from Elder Xue's eyes. The Heavenly Fire Symbol in his hand suddenly scattered out. With a loud rumbling sound, a pillar of flames shot into the skies, forming a mushroom cloud as a sea of flames surged out in all directions.

As a vicious beast broke into the midst of these flames, it suddenly emitted a miserable howl.

Another pained howl sounded out from a different direction. Everyone turned towards this cry. As their eyes focused on what was happening, all they saw was a column of flames shoot straight into the sky.

Under the watchful gaze of everyone, the vicious beasts that seemed as if they could tear open the heavens were drowned in this sea of raging flames. At a speed visible to the eyes, these vicious beasts were slowly charred into a pile of skeletons.

The people looking on were panic-stricken. For a time, the entire arena was left silent, without a single word spoken.

The only sound was the tumbling waves of flames burning in the distance. Even the earth below was melted away into shining lava, shimmering like metal.

It was like an apocalypse of heavenly flames had descended from above.

Shadow Overflow's eyes nearly popped out of his sockets. Even a lofty and conceited dark divine runic master like himself, one of the giants of the dark world, was shocked by this scene.

"This... is this really the might of Lin Ming's fifth grade Heavenly Fire Symbol?" He clenched his fists together. After the shock passed, an unexpected surge of bitterness and jealousy filled his heart... he feared that even a medium sixth grade Heavenly Fire Symbol might not possess such might!

A sixth grade Heavenly Fire Symbol was one produced by a World King! A peak sixth grade divine runic symbol was one created by a Great World King and could be used to contend with Great World King enemies!

Xiao Moxian also gripped her fists tightly, her smile as beautiful as a fire. Her cute canines glittered beneath the light of the raging flames. With this, all of the worries in her heart disappeared, replaced with nothing but pride. As she looked at Lin Ming with both eyes, her eyes shined like little stars.

After some time, the shocked people began to regain their composure.

But, before they could say anything, a deafening phoenix cry

filled the air.

Everyone was stunned once again. Above them, the skies suddenly turned overcast, dimming down to shadows.

They looked up and nearly cried out. The hell!? That Golden Phoenix Crow couldn't resist waiting and was rushing out!

Seeing the Golden Phoenix Crow diving downwards, many people paled from fear.

Then, another strange sound caught everyone's attention.

They saw the raging sea of flames that scorched those five vicious beasts to nothing begin to stir up once more. The flames wildly burned, revitalized with new life as they began to swallow all of the power of fire from within a hundred miles.

Every pillar of flames danced like flame phoenixes in the skies, their strength amazing.

Within this cataclysmic crimson sea, a brilliant runic symbol shined like a star from within the center of the seething flames.

This was the fifth grade Heavenly Fire Symbol that had just been used!

The Heavenly Fire Symbol actually reformed itself!

"This... this powerful Heavenly Fire Symbol... can actually reform itself and be reused!" At this time, even Elder Xue who was responsible for the test couldn't help but cry out in praise.

Chapter 1638 – Fire Symbol Reborn

Old Xue could clearly feel that the newly reformed Heavenly Fire Symbol contained an even more terrifying strength!

Before this, Old Xue hadn't discussed matters with Lin Ming so he didn't know what revisions Lin Ming had done to this divine runic symbol. What he wanted was to experience a pleasant surprise during this test, thus Old Xue had agreed to test this completely unfamiliar Heavenly Fire Symbol.

Old Xue had originally seen the miraculous might of this Heavenly Fire Symbol and thought this was the change that Lin Ming had made. And that with such an abnormal increase in its strength, it was impossible to increase the number of times it could be used.

He never thought that Lin Ming could modify two aspects of the divine runic symbol; this was extremely abnormal!

The surrounding audience also saw the Heavenly Fire Symbol reform itself in Elder Xue's hand. They weren't able to respond for some time. In their eyes, a divine runic symbol was a one-time use item. As for the divine runic symbol in Elder Xue's hand, it was just something that had a similar appearance.

For instance, there were some one-time use array discs. After these array discs were used they wouldn't shatter but everything within would be destroyed, leaving it as nothing but an ornament.

As everyone was thinking this, from high up in the sky, that Golden Phoenix Crow could clearly feel the threat of the burning hot flames beneath it. It was different from those other vicious beasts; this Golden Phoenix Crow was a master in manipulating fire energy.

With a cry that refused to admit inferiority, the wings of the Golden Phoenix Crow erupted in flames as it went hurtling

downwards.

Old Xue laughed. He poured his energy into the Heavenly Fire Symbol that had just experienced a nirvanic rebirth, quickly galvanizing the 2000 plus tiny runes!

In that moment, the divine runic symbol emitted a blinding light!

Beneath the stunned gaze of everyone, the already used Heavenly Fire Symbol evaporated once more in a hundred-foot high sea of raging flames!

Within these flames, there seemed to be a phoenix being reborn. Its body was surrounded by flames hot enough to melt divine gold, and with a resonant cry it swept towards that Golden Phoenix Crow.

Bang!

The two divine birds formed from the extremes of the power of fire violently crashed into each other, both leaving a burning red tunnel in their wake.

A massive shockwave erupted out from where the two divine birds crashed and spread out through the world. In the aftermath, waves of flames struck the ground, creating tyrannical flame tornados like red dragons shooting to the heavens.

Finally, the collision between the Golden Phoenix Crow and the Heavenly Fire Symbol became increasingly intense, forming a sea of flames around them.

But at this time, in this desperate battle the Heavenly Fire Symbol was able to incredibly swallow the power of fire, growing larger and larger, becoming increasingly solid as it dripped lava from its body.

In the increasingly lopsided battle, the power of fire was being rapidly drained and annihilated from the Golden Phoenix Crow's body...

Bang!

With another loud explosion, the most dense power of fire around the Heavenly Fire Symbol formed into a flaming meteor that viciously smashed into the Golden Phoenix Crow.

The Golden Phoenix Crow was a fire-attribute vicious bird beast and yet at this moment a gaping hole was formed in its body. With a devastating cry it flapped its massive wings, whipping up a hurricane as it fled to the heavens.

As everyone saw this, all of them were left petrified. The Golden Phoenix Crow with strength comparable to a World King was actually severely wounded by a peak fifth grade Heavenly Fire Symbol!

In other words, this Heavenly Fire Symbol could threaten the life of a World King!

“The newly reborn Heavenly Fire Symbol can display a strength even greater than the first time!” Elder Xue was astonished. Although he had great hopes for Lin Ming’s Heavenly Fire Symbol, these hopes had now become a great surprise that far surpassed his imagination.

And in fact, when Lin Ming created these Heavenly Fire Symbols he had used Xiao Moxian’s nirvanic flames, joining the rules of a phoenix nirvana into the Heavenly Fire Symbol itself. After many rounds of experimentation, he had finally been successful!

A phoenix went through nine nirvanas, becoming more powerful after each one. Similarly, this Heavenly Fire Symbol would become stronger after every use! Of course, it was impossible for the increase in power to be as terrifying as that of a true phoenix’s nirvana.

For a time, the entire auction arena was left in utter silence. Everyone’s eyes were wide open and their throats twitched.

Completely forgetting the amazing fact that this peak fifth grade

Heavenly Fire Symbol could severely wound a World King spirit bird, just the fact that it could be used at least two times was more than enough to leave everyone dumbfounded!

Moreover, the second use was even stronger than the first!

As everyone was at a loss for words, at this time the flames howled in the skies once more as they gathered together. Countless Asura Heavenly Dao lines danced in the center of the flames. Within several breaths of time, these flames reformed into a divine runic symbol!

This divine runic symbol lightly fell into Elder Xue's hand.

“What!? It fused back again!?”

“There's even a third time!!”

The bidders present were all greatly experienced individuals. But yet, today's Heavenly Fire Symbol completely surpassed their comprehension, upending everything they knew.

This caused their minds to shake and to be left utterly speechless!

“This Heavenly Fire Symbol... how many times can it be used?”

Many people realized that if the Heavenly Fire Symbol could reform a third time, then perhaps it might even be able to reform a fourth or fifth time!

For a time, the eyes of everyone in the audience were focused on Lin Ming!

Elder Xue let out a heavy breath and said, “Hey brat, be honest with me, how many times can this Heavenly Fire Symbol be used? Don't tell me that it's over ten or even dozens of times...”

Elder Xue joked. This Heavenly Fire Symbol was vastly different from the Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol; the amount of energy consumed was far too great. If it were able to be used several times then that would truly be heaven-defying.

Lin Ming stood at the balcony of his room and chuckled, “Elder

Xue, you're being a bit too dramatic here, how could it possibly be used that many times? The Heavenly Fire Symbol I drew up contains the fires of a phoenix nirvana. My original intention was to copy the nirvana of a phoenix and have it be reborn nine times in a sea of flames! However, it's a pity that my skills are too crude so I was only able to reach six or seven times in the end. If someone who doesn't understand the divine runic arts were to use this divine runic symbol then they might not even be able to use it six or seven times but only five times. And, according to the user's cultivation, every one or two times they use it they must resupply it with energy."

Lin Ming shook his head, as if he were feeling regretful he couldn't perfectly fuse the rules of a phoenix's nine nirvanas into the Heavenly Fire Symbol.

However, Lin Ming's regretful tone and motions left everyone speechless. If this was called crude skills then how could anyone still live?

"Smelly brat, you calling your own skills crude is the same as slapping me in the face!" Old Xue mockingly scolded. Seeing Lin Ming awkwardly cough and about to apologize, Old Xue waved his hands and said, "It's fine, I don't need you to pretend to apologize. Speak honestly. This Heavenly Fire Symbol, after being used, will it be stronger the next time?"

Let alone Old Xue, everyone in the audience realized this point.

Everyone's ears pricked up as they leaned forwards to listen to Lin Ming.

Lin Ming nodded. "Yes, just like a phoenix going through their nirvana, every time the symbol is reborn it will be stronger. At the last use, the Heavenly Fire Symbol's potency will increase just less than 30%. This is enough to cause severe wounds to a World King but a Great World King won't be threatened at all."

Lin Ming had only produced a peak fifth grade divine runic

symbol. In order to severely wound a Great World King, that would require a peak sixth grade divine runic symbol. With Lin Ming's current strength, he was still far from being able to contend with a Great World King.

After listening to Lin Ming explain all the different characteristics of the Heavenly Fire Symbol, the entire arena was left silent except for the occasional gulp.

Even Song Wen who had seen countless treasures before was shocked. He looked towards Lin Ming with respect in his eyes. With his status and age, he had never looked towards a junior with these eyes before.

“Junior-apprentice Sister... I was a fool. Looking at the might of this Heavenly Fire Symbol it would have been well worth it to lend Lin Ming a billion points! My mouth was too greedy!” Suya's senior-apprentice brother gripped his fists as he recovered from his daze.

If he hadn't prevented Suya from lending a billion points just now then he would have gained a massive advantage from that investment.

In the end, the whole lending scene had been nothing but an act. Although Lin Ming hadn't lost anything, it was not the same as honestly placing his bet on Lin Ming. As Suya's senior-apprentice brother thought of this, he regretted his decision until his intestines turned blue. A rare opportunity was placed right in front of them and yet he had been unable to take hold of it. From this moment on, it was likely that Lin Ming would rely on the fame of this Heavenly Fire Symbol to become even more famous. At that time, wanting to win him over would be vastly more difficult.

“It's no problem. Although it was only an act, Lin Ming promised he would help me.” Suya faintly smiled, not blaming her senior-apprentice brother. Her senior-apprentice brother's reaction had been perfectly rational and was the way things should normally

have been done.

As some rejoiced, others despaired. In another VIP suite, Duke Fullmoon and Shadow Overflow's two faces were as black as the bottom of a pot!

They were waiting to see Lin Ming make a joke of himself, but the end was that he had created a miracle!

The power of this Heavenly Fire Symbol was countless times greater than the Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol!

"This sort of divine runic symbol, how could it be transformed to such a degree!?" Duke Fullmoon gnashed his teeth. Beside him, Shadow Overflow remained silent. What was there to say? Anything he said right now would be nothing but an incoherent mass. In the Asura Road world, there was actually a fifth grade divine runic symbol that was able to stir up so much attention; this far surpassed his imagination.

From just the power alone, this fifth grade divine runic symbol surpassed the strength of a general sixth grade divine runic symbol!

This Lin Ming was truly a monstrously talented freak of the divine runic arts!

After the entire auction hall arena fell silent for half an incense stick of time, many people began to develop greedy thoughts. All of them were waiting for the auction of the divine runic symbols to begin!

It had to be known that if a fifth grade divine runic symbol had the strength of a medium sixth grade divine runic symbol, then its strength far surpassed that of a sixth grade divine runic symbol!

A general sixth grade divine runic symbol required one to be at least a half-step World King to use. And in order to display its full strength, one would need to be a true World King.

But a peak fifth grade divine runic symbol was different. A peak

Holy Lord could display its strongest might!

In other words, this sort of divine runic symbol would give a peak Holy Lord powerhouse the capital to survive in the face of a World King!

If an enemy possessed a power that was able to severely wound someone, then even if that power could only be used once in a short period of time, that person would have to carefully weigh whether it was worth it to continue attacking.

This difference in the restrictions for the Heavenly Fire Symbol caused its value to rise several times over!

Chapter 1639 – Doubts

At this time, the entire auction was stirred into a frenzy!

Many people stretched out their necks, waiting for the sale of the Heavenly Fire Symbol to begin!

“How come it hasn’t started? I have to buy a Heavenly Fire Symbol no matter what today!” A peak Holy Lord martial artist secretly swore to himself as he gripped his fists. He had a half-step World King blood enemy. If he had this Heavenly Fire Symbol then he would have the capital to take revenge!

It wasn’t just him who had this idea, but many others in the audience. At this time, many people who had mocked Lin Ming’s fifth grade Heavenly Fire Symbols before were now eagerly waiting to buy one of them.

There was also another group of people that were hoping to buy these fifth grade divine runic symbols and then gather a team of researchers to unravel them. If they could somehow encounter a stroke of luck and crack open its secrets then that would be worth a massive amount of wealth!

Of course, if they knew the fate that had befallen Shadow Overflow, they might not have had such thoughts.

Everyone had different thoughts, but without exception all of them were looking forwards to the auction of the Heavenly Fire Symbol, a look of hope and greed in their eyes. At the same time, the suspicious and derisive color in their eyes had transformed into respect.

The Asura Road was a world that revered the strong. If one displayed a mighty enough performance, a shocking enough performance, then one could earn sufficient respect.

This was the fairest law of all.

Song Wen was happy to see such powerful divine runic symbols.

But, he also didn't forget what his responsibilities were.

“Elder Xue, can you judge the value of Sir Lin Ming's fifth grade divine runic symbols?”

Everyone calmed down, all of their eyes focusing on Elder Xue.

No matter how powerful this fifth grade divine runic symbol was, the main purpose of this test was to evaluate its price.

Elder Xue thought for a moment. Then, he slowly said, “The potency is equal to a medium sixth grade divine runic symbol, but when factoring in its ability to rebirth itself as well as the lowered requirements for maximum use, its value far outstrips that of a normal sixth grade divine runic symbol by several dozen times. There has never been a similar case before this so it is hard for me to put forth an accurate value. That will be something that must be determined through the auction...”

“Dozens of times over a sixth grade divine runic symbol!?” Someone gasped, their voice shaking. If this were true then many people present wouldn't be able to afford it!

Song Wen faintly smiled. He swept his eyes over the impatient bidders. Seeing the desire thick in their eyes, Song Wen had already begun planning in advance.

He struck his auctioneer mallet on the podium and then stretched out his words as he said, “Sir Lin, our Runic Pill Trading Organization will purchase your 10 Heavenly Fire Symbols! As for the price, that can be discussed later...”

As Song Wen spoke, the entire arena hall was left stunned!

Even Lin Ming was startled. He thought that Song Wen was going to continue with the auction of the 10 Heavenly Fire Symbols, but he never thought that the Divine Runic Masters Guild would want to buy them up instead!

What was the meaning of this?

Could it be that the Divine Runic Masters Guild wanted to buy these Heavenly Fire Symbols to study and collect them?

Lin Ming didn't believe that the Divine Runic Masters Guild, with its countless masters, needed to use these 10 Heavenly Fire Symbols to fight off some enemy force. Moreover, without an auction it would be difficult to set an appropriate price. After all, this was the first time this sort of Heavenly Fire Symbol had ever appeared so it was impossible to set a base price; everything would have to be determined by the market.

But as Song Wen finished speaking, the arena hall actually exploded in rage!

"Are you joking with us!? You had us watch this scene for half a day and now you aren't selling them!?"

"You motherfucker, I am going to buy a Heavenly Fire Symbol no matter what, so what is the meaning of your Divine Runic Masters Guild buying anything!?"

"You had us watch this show and then came up with these tricks at the end, it's as if you think we are monkeys!"

Many of the martial artists present were rough desperados. After being stunned by Song Wen's words, they became livid with anger! Martial artists often had short and explosive tempers. Once Song Wen lost control of the scene, this would not be a joke.

However, Song Wen remained calm and composed as he faced this scene. He faintly smiled and said, "Please be patient everyone. I am not saying that there won't be any sold, only that these 10 finished divine runic symbols will not be sold. Didn't we say that there would be a sale of promissory notes? Those can be exchanged for the improved Heavenly Fire Symbols produced by Lin Ming. If any of you wish to purchase in advance then you may bid during the auction for them."

What? The auction for promissory notes would begin like this!?

Many of those present were apoplectic with rage, feeling as if all of their blood was rushing to their head! The completed divine runic symbols wouldn't be sold but the promissory notes would! They all had the impulse to rush up the auction stage and punch Song Wen in the face!

However, this was a seller's market and there was only one place to purchase these divine runic symbols, nowhere else. Even if the Divine Runic Masters Guild played this dirty trick and only sold promissory notes, everyone could only eat their dissatisfaction.

Seeing the audience's reaction, Xiao Moxian's heart blossomed with joy.

"Hehe, look at those snobby fellows who dared to look down on my Big Brother Lin. Now there's nothing to sell to them and they can only pay in advance before receiving anything! This feels great!"

Seeing everyone's resentful expressions, Xiao Moxian couldn't help but gloat a little.

And standing near Xiao Moxian, Lin Ming naturally didn't have these playful thoughts. Rather, he looked towards Song Wen, trying to figure out what his intentions were.

The more he thought, the more Lin Ming couldn't help but praise in his heart. This was truly a skillful move!

If those 10 completed Heavenly Fire Symbols were sold at the start, then because the quantity was too low, the ones buying them would mostly be peak Holy Lord martial artists.

These people would buy them for their personal use. Because they didn't have much wealth, the price wouldn't be too high.

And once they bought them, this would set an approximate base price for Lin Ming's Heavenly Fire Symbols.

Following that, it would be difficult for the auction of the Heavenly Fire Symbols promissory notes to surpass this price.

This was because in everyone's hearts, buying the finished product should definitely be more expensive. As for selling promissory notes, they would be cheaper. After all, this was the risk one paid for promissory notes!

Thus, the sale of these 10 complete divine runic symbols would inevitably affect the auction of the promissory notes. Once an approximate price was formed in everyone's mind, it would be impossible to sell for a sky-high price. It had to be known that these promissory notes would form the bulk of Lin Ming's income, and having such a situation would cause him to suffer a great deal!

On the other hand, if the promissory notes were sold first and not the completed ones, then the promissory notes would sell for a great deal. This was the so-called hunger marketing strategy.

Even though this was a simple matter, Lin Ming could sense how crafty and intelligent Song Wen's decision was. No wonder the Divine Runic Masters Guild would allow Song Wen, someone who wasn't a divine runic master and who also had a low cultivation, to become the president of the Runic Pill Trading Organization.

"Everyone, let us begin the auction of Sir Lin's promissory notes. These promissory notes will be guaranteed with the reputation of my Divine Runic Masters Guild. Sir Lin, how many Heavenly Fire Symbols do you plan on selling in advance?"

Song Wen slyly smiled as he faced Lin Ming. Facing the disdainful eyes of the crowd, Song Wen turned a blind eye to them all, and in fact became even more confident of himself. The main purpose of this treasure fair was to earn money. As the president of the Runic Pill Trading Organization, he had to place the duty of making money as his top priority.

As for others looking down on him and cursing him in their hearts, he didn't bother caring at all.

Lin Ming narrowed his eyes. He thought about the amount for the moment and then said to Song Wen, "First sell 500. I will place

a soul mark on a divine runic symbol as a promise of debt and when the time comes the person can exchange this divine runic symbol for the promised goods.”

Lin Ming’s voice wasn’t loud, but his words spread to everyone in the audience.

500 promissory notes?

Everyone was stunned. Just how many points was this!?

This motherfucker, wasn’t he earning points too easily!?

Moreover, if this concerned 500 promissory notes, then the final price would involve hundreds of millions and billions of points! This caused many people to almost faint from anger!

If Lin Ming had said these words not too long ago then he would have been called an idiot by everyone. But the current situation was different. After going through the testing array formation, everyone was able to see just how powerful this fifth grade Heavenly Fire Symbol was!

A fifth grade Heavenly Fire Symbol was able to severely wound a World King level vicious beast. If such a thing were placed in a battlefield and used en masse...

Thinking of this, some people began to stream with a cold sweat.

Such powerful divine runic symbols... if an influence were to possess these items then they would absolutely be weapons that could change the tide of a war. And the most important point was that these fifth grade Heavenly Fire Symbols had to be grasped in their hands; they absolutely could not allow enemy forces to obtain them!

Many people realized this point. But... with such a large transaction and also buying only promissory notes... many people were lacking the confidence to bid on them!

What if they couldn’t cash them in later?

This was not a small amount. Even an Empyrean Holy Land had to mull over this massive wholesale trade!

As everyone was feeling faint of heart and wavering between bidding or not, a black-cloaked old man flew out like a ghost from the VIP suites.

His long robes trailed behind him as he flew high into the skies above the arena hall. His entire body was covered in a thick black fog, hiding his appearance.

He was Shadow Overflow!

Shadow Overflow's appearance caused Lin Ming to frown. Although he didn't know who Shadow Overflow was, he knew that this fellow was the old man who always followed behind Duke Fullmoon and was extremely hostile to him.

Shadow Overflow's appearance attracted everyone's eyes.

Beneath his voluminous black cloak, Shadow Overflow's lips moved. His hoarse throat began to squeeze out words, "I acknowledge that the might of these Heavenly Fire Symbols is unparalleled! But because this is a massive transaction that has no real items and only promissory notes, I have my suspicions... do these Heavenly Fire Symbols originate from your hands?"

Shadow Overflow's words were forceful and menacing. As he looked at Lin Ming, the air between them turned cold!

As this was said, many bidders frowned. They also had these doubts in their hearts. In truth, many of them also thought of this. They thought that these Heavenly Fire symbols were not drawn by Lin Ming but were obtained by him from some mystic realm, or, perhaps they were inherited and there were only these 10 and no others.

If so, then these promissory notes written by Lin Ming were nothing but pieces of scrap paper! As for the guarantee of the Divine Runic Masters Guild, so what?

In truth, what Shadow Overflow was really saying was that he found this entire situation hard to accept. A young junior like Lin Ming had actually demolished him when it came to the divine runic arts!

Not only did Shadow Overflow think this, but many other people skilled in the divine runic arts found it hard to believe that Lin Ming could have such attainments in the divine runic arts. It was simply unreasonable!

The appearance of the black-cloaked man didn't surprise Lin Ming. Even if the black-cloaked man didn't appear, there would be someone else that stood up to question him.

To sell promissory notes on the stage of the Divine Rune City Auction House, and for an amount that would even give Emphyrean Holy Lands pause, this was not an easy matter at all. The representatives of the large influences would be ruined if they were deceived!

Lin Ming moved. His clothes fluttered as he flew through the air and fell atop the auction stage. He faintly smiled and said, "Since you have such doubts, how about I draw one in front of the audience!"

Chapter 1640 – Exposed

As soon as Lin Ming finished his words, Shadow Overflow's lips twitched; he hadn't thought that Lin Ming would suggest such a thing.

This sort of suggestion was simply being more courageous than the heavens.

When a divine runic master drew up divine runic symbols, they usually did so in the peaceful environment of a divine runic room. Even then, there was a considerable failure rate.

Moreover, this sort of improved Heavenly Fire Symbol had over 2000 tiny runes; the complexity in drawing one up surpassed the majority of sixth grade divine runic symbols!

Under the watchful gaze of the audience, what would Lin Ming do if he failed!?

If his mindset was poor then he would panic after the first failure. Moreover, in order to draw up such a complicated Heavenly Fire Symbol it would require a massive amount of Lin Ming's soul force. Even if a peak fifth grade divine runic master were to try, they could likely only attempt it once. If they failed they would have to wait several hours for a second try, and the success rate would drop even lower!

In this sort of situation, there was no divine runic master that would attempt to draw up a divine runic symbol that reached the limits of their skill in front of a giant audience. There was only a single explanation for this, and that was Lin Ming had reached an ultimate peak of confidence in his divine runic arts skills!

If Shadow Overflow could think of this, so could the other divine runic masters in the audience. All of them were frightened by Lin Ming's words. He was simply being far too confident. Wasn't he afraid that he would fail?

“It seems that this Heavenly Fire Symbol... is really made by this brat...” Shadow Overflow couldn’t help but accept this blow to his self-confidence. But, he didn’t think that Lin Ming would dare to boast at such a time.

But, suddenly...

Shadow Overflow’s originally gloomy and decrepit face suddenly lifted up with a bizarre smile. Hidden beneath the shadows of his black cloak, his eyes began to shine with a brilliant light.

“Although it may be true you drew up those divine runic symbols, you are far too young and far too arrogant and cannot stand others questioning you. However, what you don’t know is that as a peak dark divine runic master, I have special methods to observe and copy the technique of other divine runic masters! If you draw up a divine runic symbol in front of me then that is the same as revealing all of your secrets to me!”

Thinking of this, the avaricious greed in Shadow Overflow’s eyes became increasingly thick. When a normal divine runic master drew up a divine runic symbol they would always reveal some secrets. And for these secrets, while orthodox divine runic masters might not be able to discern anything, if they were to be seen by a dark divine runic master, they would be far more easily understood! And Shadow Overflow was someone who was particularly skilled in this field!

In particular, Shadow Overflow had already tried to unravel Lin Ming’s Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol before. At the time, Shadow Overflow had already obtained a thorough understanding of the tiny rune system and overall structure of the Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol. The only question that baffled him was how to fuse in the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws. Now, Shadow Overflow believed he would be able to find the hints to doing so by watching Lin Ming!

Even if Lin Ming failed, Shadow Overflow would still be able to

see many things. Moreover, he could even kick Lin Ming while he was down and send that brat rolling off a cliff.

At this time, in the auction hall arena, there were many other dark divine runic masters that had the same thoughts as Shadow Overflow.

These dark divine runic masters all needed to buy materials so they definitely wouldn't miss Divine Rune City's treasure fair auction. Of course, they had hidden their status before entering. Some of these people had even been part of Shadow Overflow's team that tried to copy the Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol.

They all held the same thoughts that Shadow Overflow did in their hearts. Many of them were secretly celebrating this event.

"This bull-headed youth is far too hot-blooded and arrogant, he can't even withstand a few insults! To dare to draw up a divine runic symbol publicly, good! Very good!"

"Haha, the master who passed down their inheritance to this brat must be feeling stupid. This brat wants to show off and even have a demonstration of his skills in front of everyone, he's just waiting for us to unravel his inheritances. Once we figure out how to create this Heavenly Fire Symbol, we'll have our own open auction! At that time, not only will money be rolling in but our futures will be limitless! Hahaha!"

Some divine runic masters thought. Their faces began to burn red with excitement and their breaths quickened.

For a time, many dark divine runic masters reached out faint threads of soul force that lingered around Lin Ming. The frenzy in their hearts had been ignited by Lin Ming and they were eagerly awaiting his performance.

These dark divine runic masters that coveted the peak fifth grade Heavenly Fire Symbol had to be at least peak fifth grade; in other words, a peak Holy Lord realm cultivation. Some of them were

even World Kings.

These people observed Lin Ming's actions with their dark divine runic secret techniques. They emitted their soul perception, taking note of his every movement. This was an extremely impolite action but none of them were worried because their cultivations were far higher than Lin Ming's, and in addition to their unique dark divine runic techniques that spied on others, even if they were to spy on people with a similar boundary they still wouldn't be discovered.

“Hehe... if you can really prove that then I will certainly believe you will honor those 500 promissory notes. I have no problem with that.”

Shadow Overflow licked his withered lips, tamping down the excitement and hope in his heart. He agreed to Lin Ming proving himself by drawing up the divine runic symbol in front of everyone.

“Then hurry up and begin!”

Many people urged from beneath the auction stage. Many of these people were part of the ordinary audience who shouted out purely because they wanted to experience the birth of a miracle with their own eyes. But, many of them were also dark divine runic masters hidden in the crowd.

“Alright.”

Lin Ming languidly laid out a divine runic pen as well as a simple array disc commonly used to draw divine runic symbols. But, he didn't immediately take out the materials. Rather, he stood there, his hands behind his back as he slyly smiled at Shadow Overflow.

Seeing Lin Ming's eyes on him, Shadow Overflow felt his heart skip a beat. He didn't know why, but Lin Ming's eyes seemed to see through him, causing a chill to creep up his back.

“W-what are you...”

Shadow Overflow saw Lin Ming stare at him for several breaths

of time and faltered a little. He frowned, “How come you aren’t drawing the Heavenly Fire Symbol? Were you just bluffing all this time?”

He was deliberately stirring up Lin Ming, but how could Lin Ming fall for this bait?

Lin Ming suddenly smiled and stared at Shadow Overflow’s obscured face. After a long pause, Lin Ming then slowly said, “Yes, I do believe... I know who you are...”

Shadow Overflow never imagined that Lin Ming would say such words. His body shook and he nearly lost his balance as he floated in the air.

His eyebrows wrinkled together. He pretended to be calm, “I have no idea what you are speaking about!”

“Mm, it’s fine as long as you know who you are... isn’t that right, Grandmaster Overflow...?”

Lin Ming unhurriedly said without a hint of doubt in his voice. His lips curved up in a playful smile. With this, the entire audience was stunned!

Shadow Overflow had risen to fame many years ago and was far more famous and well-known than Lin Ming was!

Even those that didn’t belong to the world of divine runic arts knew the name of Shadow Overflow. Or better to say, they knew of his infamy. He was a notoriously cruel character, evil and vicious, a completely abhorrent person!

Not only did he copy the divine runic symbols of others, but his character was poor and he was sinister and vicious, a bloodthirsty and lustful man!

He plundered the proud young female disciples of small sects to use as his living furnaces, and killed off tens of millions of mortals as a sacrifice to refine his ghost streamer. In short, he was a man that stooped to any evils!

It was also said he gathered thousands of proud women to establish his harem. Wherever he went he would have squads of golden-armored warriors following him as well as dozens of charming maids. He would have flood dragons pulling his carriage and spirit flower petals would sprinkle the ground ahead of him. This opulent transportation was just like a divine emperor travelling abroad!

Towards this type of person, many people felt nothing but utter scorn.

Shadow Overflow's complexion became increasingly ugly. He couldn't figure out how Lin Ming had discovered his identity!

He had never met Lin Ming openly face-to-face, and even when they briefly bumped into each other he had used all sorts of arcane techniques to conceal his cultivation and aura. In this situation, Lin Ming was still able to recognize him!

Could it be that... he had sensed his divine runic arts technique?

How was this possible... he was only a Divine Lord and also a mere human, so how could Lin Ming discover his sense!

Shadow Overflow could not believe this!

And his guess was right; Lin Ming had discovered Shadow Overflow's dark divine runic arts technique!

Lin Ming had inherited Torchriver's memories. Torchriver was not some good or righteous individual and he also had an understanding of the spying arts of dark divine runic masters. As for Lin Ming, because he had a powerful soul force and he also cultivated the Divine Mist Heart Mantra, he had an extremely keen sense. He was able to instantly catch onto Shadow Overflow's spying sense and then contrast it with Torchriver's memories to understand what it was.

A dark divine runic master that he couldn't see the cultivation of, they had to be at least at the sixth grade or peak sixth grade.

Such a dark divine runic master was hostile towards him and had been targeting him from the very start of the auction fair. When all of these factors were combined, Lin Ming didn't need to be a genius to know it was that Grandmaster Overflow who had tried to rashly unravel his Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol and had lost several hundreds of millions of points as a result!

Seeing Shadow Overflow continue putting on an act at this moment, Lin Ming smiled and said, "Grandmaster Overflow, I've heard so much about your grand name before, but, I must apologize for meeting you under such circumstances. I wonder, have you fixed those array discs you broke when you tried to unravel my Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol?"

Lin Ming's words were brutal enough, especially to be said in the presence of everyone. No matter how patient Shadow Overflow was, even he couldn't withstand such shame.

The defeat of that research team was an eternal pain in his heart. Not only was it a loss of wealth but more importantly a loss of his reputation and an impact on his confidence!

From the depths of his soul, he wished that he could flay Lin Ming alive!

And at this time, all of the other dark divine runic masters in attendance felt a foreboding premonition rise over their hearts. Seeing the situation turn bad, all of them withdrew the spying sense they had cast on Lin Ming and restrained their auras in fear of being discovered.

But this sudden change left Lin Ming chuckling. He walked forwards several steps and swept his eyes over the entire audience.

His eyes paused in several places before he slowly said, "I haven't even started to draw anything so why would all of you retreat like this? Just now it seems there were... 19 senses... hmm, I wonder if I missed any?"

As Lin Ming spoke, all of the dark divine runic masters in the audience felt their hearts skip a beat, a cold sweat forming on their backs!

They had stretched out their sense to peek at Lin Ming, but their sense had been noticed by him. It was just like a few thieves entering a mansion to steal some items. Even if they tried to cover their tracks there would still be clues.

Although they knew there were over a dozen some people that had also stretched out their senses, they couldn't affirm whether it was truly such a precise number like 19!

Chapter 1641 – Stay If You Want

This boy, he was able to discover everyone looking at him, even the much stronger Shadow Overflow? How was this possible?

If Lin Ming discovered these dark divine runic masters, that meant that this young junior far surpassed their attainments in soul force. Thus, it was no wonder that these dark divine runic masters began to drip with a cold sweat!

This was too terrifying!

They even suspected that Lin Ming was an old monster hiding in the body of a youth!

At this time, Lin Ming flicked his hand and dozens of golden shining runes flew into the air. They scattered in different directions like a pack of homing pigeons, zooming to 19 different places where they paused in the skies.

These people sat in ordinary seats and also in ordinary rooms. But without exception, all of them had a peak Holy Lord cultivation or above!

As the audience saw the cultivation of these people, all of them sucked in a breath of cold air!

They weren't idiots. With things having come this far, even those that didn't understand the divine runic arts knew what was happening. These people all spied on Lin Ming but were actually seized by him instead!

And, the key point was that if these people weren't Holy Lords then they were World Kings. Yet, their spying had been discovered by a simple Divine Lord realm junior!

Many people felt this was unbelievable. They stared at Lin Ming's dantian, wanting to see if they could find a clue, but without a doubt all of them verified that he was truly a middle Divine Lord realm martial artist!

What was going on here?

“Is he some old monster in disguise?”

However, a Great World King level powerhouse shook his head and said, “No, only an Empyrean would be able to disguise their cultivation and skeletal age to such a perfect degree beneath the gaze of several hundred thousands of heroes. But, an Empyrean would not do something so boring as to deceive a group of juniors. Not just that, but we even have two strong Empyreans personally attending this event, so wanting to fake anything in front of them is as difficult as ascending to heaven!”

The Great World King’s words were a confirmation of Lin Ming’s cultivation and age.

This left many people stunned speechless.

And at this time, on the auction stage, Song Wen overcame his initial shock at Lin Ming’s abilities. Slowly, his complexion became dark and gloomy. “Those 19 friends marked by runes, could you kindly stand?”

Song Wen’s voice was calm and filled with forceful aggressiveness.

These dark divine runic masters, although they couldn’t be seen in the light of day, were still people with status. They had never been treated like this before!

No one moved. Song Wen thought little of it. He coldly coughed, saying, “You may be considered our peers, but I must apologize that we do not welcome your kind here. Our Divine Runic Masters Guild has always drawn a clear line with dark divine runic masters!”

Song Wen’s original intention was to protect Lin Ming and to prevent any secrets from his drawing of the Heavenly Fire Symbol to leak out. But, he never imagined that as he said this, Lin Ming would instead laugh and smile, saying, “Elder Song, there is no

need to do that. As the saying goes, good relations always lead to wealth. Although I pointed them out, that doesn't mean I wanted them to be evicted. If they want to see, they can certainly stay and learn."

"What!?"

Lin Ming's words left everyone dumbfounded, whether it was Shadow Overflow, the other dark divine runic masters, the audience, or Song Wen. Just what was Lin Ming planning?

"Well, however..." Lin Ming suddenly changed his tone.

"I do have a condition. I cannot allow them to freely stay for nothing. To those 19 dark divine runic masters I just marked, if you wish to stay then you need to pay a viewing fee of 30 million points. Of course, if I fail in drawing up my Heavenly Fire Symbol then the fee will be completely refunded."

Lin Ming's words and actions left everyone panic-stricken!

One person was 30 million, that meant 19 people were nearly 600 million!

Wasn't this money just too easily earned!?

30 million was not a small amount. Even the price for a VIP suite was 30 million, and that was something only a large influence like an Empyrean level influence would pay for. As for World King level influences, they would only rent out ordinary rooms.

For instance, these dark divine runic masters were mostly in the ordinary rooms. Of course, the reason for choosing an ordinary room, besides cost, was also because they wished to remain low-key.

30 million points was also a price they could pay. Dark divine runic masters dabbled in transactions of the underworld and all of them were fairly wealthy. Even so, they couldn't take out 30 million points without paying; that price would definitely leave them feeling a bit of pain.

Hearing Lin Ming say such words, Elder Xue was a bit worried. He said with a sound transmission, “Lin Ming, don’t be impulsive here. These dark divine runic masters have existed for billions of years and have an immeasurably long inheritance. The number of secret techniques they possess is incalculable. If you let them watch and mimic you then that is too dangerous. If your inheritance was revealed...”

Old Xue was indeed concerned for Lin Ming. Lin Ming’s inheritance was far, far too valuable. He feared that Lin Ming would be too confident in himself because Shadow Overflow had failed in unraveling the Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol before. After all, copying without seeing and copying with seeing were two completely different concepts.

Before Lin Ming replied to Old Xue, Shadow Overflow smiled and said, “The newborn calf really doesn’t fear the tiger. Not only do you not fear us copying you as we watch, but you even want to take our money! Interesting! How interesting! Good, I will put forth these 30 million points!”

With Shadow Overflow’s wealth, he certainly didn’t care much about 30 million points.

But at this time Lin Ming suddenly sneered. He looked towards Shadow Overflow and spread his hands, “I’m sorry, but it seems you didn’t hear me clearly just now. I asked those 19 dark divine runic masters that I marked to pay a 30 million viewing fee if they wished to stay and watch, but you are not included in those 19 people. If you want to stay then the fee is a bit higher at 200 million. Whether you want to stay and watch is all up to you.”

“What!?”

Shadow Overflow nearly choked on himself.

He glared at Lin Ming, hate thick in his eyes, “What is the meaning of this!”

Lin Ming simply didn't bother with Shadow Overflow's sharp and cutting vision. He indifferently said, "This price is decided by me. If you don't want to stay then I am not forcing you to! Grandmaster Overflow, you are already so infamous outside that you will surely be able to see more details than these other dark divine runic masters. If I do not charge you a higher fee then it is not fair to any of them!"

"You - !!" Shadow Overflow's face turned red with rage. Even for him, taking out 200 million would be painful!

Lin Ming's viewing fees were decided after calculating the net worth of Shadow Overflow and the other dark divine runic masters. It was a price that they didn't want to pay, but one that they weren't willing to refuse and give up on.

At this time, Song Wen stepped forwards, "Everyone, if you do not wish to pay the viewing fee then I must ask you to leave. This Divine Rune City Auction originally did not welcome the likes of you dark divine runic masters!"

Song Wen also praised Lin Ming in his heart. This boy was truly not easy to deal with. If anyone underestimated him because of his age, then they would simply be stupid idiots!

To draw up a peak fifth grade improved Heavenly Fire Symbol under the gaze of the audience, to dare allow a group of peak fifth grade and sixth grade dark divine runic masters spy on the process, but to also sit back and receive money, this level of daring was not something an ordinary person could possess!

Even an established sixth grade divine runic master like Elder Xue wouldn't be brave enough to do this!

"Good! Good! Very good!" Shadow Overflow repeated as he cast off his black cloak, revealing his old and withered face. His filthy eyes were currently shimmering with a faint blood red light.

"Then I will pay this 200 million!"

Shadow Overflow was stirred to anger by Lin Ming!

At this point, it was the same as Lin Ming declaring war on him!

A junior that wasn't even a hundred years old was declaring war on the infamous Shadow Overflow. If he didn't dare to meet this challenge then he would be made a laughingstock by everyone he knew!

Shadow Overflow threw out a jade slip with 200 million points within. At the same time, from all over the arena, 19 jade slips flew up one after another, each one having 30 million points within it!

Divine runic masters were proud and arrogant people and even dark divine runic masters were the same. These people did not believe in superstitious nothings, they believed in themselves!

Even if they couldn't unravel the Heavenly Fire Symbol they would still be able to see many things. This would be greatly beneficial to them in the future. With that, these 30 million points weren't wanted at all.

Lin Ming received all of these jade slips and gave them to Xiao Moxian. Xiao Moxian looked at the shining point cards in her hands and put all the points within them in a larger contribution points jade slip.

Feeling the contents of the large points jade slip rapidly grow, Xiao Moxian grinned from ear to ear. "Big Brother Lin makes money far too easily. Let alone selling those Heavenly Fire Symbols or selling those promissory notes, you have already earned 800 million..."

As the audience heard Xiao Moxian speak, they seemed to wake up from a stupor. Before this they had been laughing at the idea of Lin Ming selling promissory notes at the Divine Rune City auction, thinking he would make a joke of himself. But now, before the promissory notes were sold, he had already earned 800 million points. This amount of points earned in such a short period of time

was far too abnormal!

In the VIP suites, Suyu spat out a light breath. She felt more and more that the youth on stage was unfathomably deep. She thought she understood Lin Ming, but the truth was that she never understood him at all. With every step Lin Ming took, she was always amazed by whatever astonishing matter happened next!

800 million points, that was the same as stealing! But, this blatantly wild grab for money was completely justified. To have a group of dark divine runic masters and even the famed Shadow Overflow obediently fork over so much wealth, if Suyu had only heard of this but didn't see it with her own eyes, she would think whoever said this was insane!

"Little Brother Lin, you may begin at any time." Song Wen nodded towards Lin Ming. He was also curious where Lin Ming's self-confidence came from. "There is no need to set up a temporary divine runic room, I have already sent people to bring over the required array discs."

To refine divine runic symbols required all sorts of intricate array formations, otherwise Lin Ming's efficiency in drawing up divine runic symbols would be much lower.

"Hehe, what's the point of having array formations? You have an old man here willing to be an assistant!" Old Xue stepped forwards, taking the initiative to volunteer himself.

The main role of an array formation was to help in processing materials. But no matter how good a seventh grade array formation was in processing materials, it wouldn't be as good as having a real sixth grade divine runic master!

To have Old Xue as an assistant, that was an absurdly luxurious matter. Many people who knew Old Xue's status in the Divine Runic Masters Guild were left flabbergasted by this.

"Thank you senior!" Lin Ming felt a warmth in his heart. He

could feel Elder Xue's concern towards him. Drawing up a Heavenly Fire Symbol wasn't easy at all. Without the support of large-scale high grade array formations here to support him, having an assistant here would save him a great deal of soul force and make it easier to draw up the Heavenly Fire Symbol.

“Haha, what are you being so polite for? When the divine runic symbol is finished, you can just give me 100 million from those 800 million points you received just now!”

Old Xue laughed. Lin Ming choked on his words. This old man, he really wouldn't change no matter what. The truth was that to Lin Ming giving away 100 million wasn't a problem at all, but he knew that Old Xue was in truth just joking around with him.

Chapter 1642 – Lin Ming VS Shadow Overflow

Lin Ming took out a specialized divine runic table from his spatial ring as well as various piles of materials.

As Lin Ming took out the materials, he no longer concealed any of his actions from the spying Shadow Overflow. Shadow Overflow's neck was stretched out like a rooster as he licked his dry lips. His complete focus was concentrated on Lin Ming's every move lest he miss a single detail.

“The materials he uses aren't strange; they are all materials required for drawing a Heavenly Fire Symbol. There are also several more types...” Shadow Overflow mumbled, “They aren't too cheap but they aren't too expensive either.”

Shadow Overflow instantly judged.

At this time Elder Xue had already picked up some of the materials and began processing them with precise skills. He removed the inferior parts of materials and then broke them down...

Lin Ming took out some nine-flame grass. His fingertips were like precise scalpels as he made an accurate cut on each blade of grass.

His soul force merged into the nine-flame grass, immediately drawing out the essence of the juice.

A strange tractive force emerged from Lin Ming's palm, cleanly pulling out every drop of essence juice. His fingers seemed to dance in the air, every movement he made like passing clouds and flowing water, smooth and clean, giving off a whole and balanced feeling.

As they said, laymen watched for fun, experts watched for interest.

In the eyes of ordinary people, Lin Ming's movements only had a faint aesthetic sense.

But for some divine runic masters, the more they watched the more immersed they were. Without knowing it, they began to mimic Lin Ming's movements, drawing their hands in the void to capture the precise trajectories of his movements.

They knew that these ghostly movements involved the subtle changes in angle and power of extracting the juices.

These changes seemed ordinary but there was actually a profound meaning behind them. Only these divine runic masters were able to sense some of the mysteries within.

Shadow Overflow's face darkened. Just Lin Ming's movements in extracting the essence of the juice were enough to leave many fifth grade divine runic masters red with shame!

Drawing up a divine runic symbol was in many ways a form of art.

Lin Ming focused all of his concentration into drawing the divine runic symbol. After completing the first step of extracting the essence of the materials, he directly stepped into the next stage.

The divine runic pen dipped into the juice essence and drew a bright path through the air like a chain of stars. A brilliant soul force spilled out into the void, marking the juice essence.

As Lin Ming began to draw up the tiny runes, he perfectly calculated every small change in his mind.

These deductions were accumulated over the last several months. Even the slightest possible change was recorded in his mind. Now, all he needed to do was to perfectly display them.

Every tiny rune was like a tiny flower that bloomed on his fingertips.

Small lines of soul force appeared between the tiny runes,

interspersed, connecting them together, revealing a sense of mystery and beauty.

Even for those that didn't understand the divine runic arts, this was a shockingly beautiful scene.

To think that the decidedly dull divine runic arts could be so enchanting.

At this time, Shadow Overflow's eyes were fanatical. His body shivered as he held his breath and focused on Lin Ming's every moment, recording even the smallest detail into his mind.

The other divine runic masters who had spent points all remembered Lin Ming's movements with everything they had.

However, they discovered that they weren't able to follow him!

It wasn't that they couldn't remember Lin Ming's movements, nor was it that they couldn't see the tiny runes he drew up, but because they didn't know what the meaning behind his drawing was!

Even if they used all sorts of dark divine runic analyzing techniques, they still couldn't analyze just how these tiny runes were connected.

Once they missed the tiniest detail, it was easy to be lost on every following stroke.

Some dark divine runic masters had already begun dripping with a cold sweat!

Lin Ming took a long time to draw up the Heavenly Fire Symbol. In the blink of an eye, six hours had passed.

This wasn't an easy process for Lin Ming. His forehead was dripping with crystal clear beads of sweat. As for Xiao Moxian standing beside him, she didn't even dare to help wipe Lin Ming, lest she disturb him.

After those several months of attempts, Lin Ming's chances of

drawing up those two improved divine runic symbols had greatly increased.

For the Heretical God Symbol, he had a 60-70% chance of success. As for the Heavenly Fire Symbol, he had a 90% chance of success.

A 90% chance couldn't be considered a guaranteed 100% success rate. But, if Lin Ming revolved the Divine Mist Heart Mantra to the limit and didn't hesitate to consume every last bit of his soul force to draw up the Heavenly Fire Symbol, then he could bring the success rate up to 100%!

As the last tiny rune appeared in the void, the 2000+ runes seemed to come to life. As they floated in the air, they looked like a galaxy, exuding a vast aura of energy.

Om ~ !

A pitch black power of fire submerged into the middle of the runes, carrying with it a strange aura of Laws.

This flame was the nirvanic flames that Lin Ming possessed!

"Xian'er!" Lin Ming said. In truth, he didn't need to say anything; Xiao Moxian was already transferring the nirvanic flames into him where they gathered into the divine runic symbol.

Xiao Moxian's nirvanic flames were far purer than Lin Ming's.

This scene left many in the audience startled with amazement. This black-clothed young girl had followed Lin Ming everywhere. They originally thought she was only a flower vase that was there to look good, but they never imagined the flames she commanded could be so pure. Moreover, her attainments in the Fire Laws seemed to have reached... the seventh level Concept!!

This was a boundary that left many fire-attribute World Kings weeping with shame! And this young girl also seemed to be of similar age and cultivation to Lin Ming.

Just what in the world was this? Wasn't this just a match made

in heaven? This was too odd!

At this time, Lin Ming's actions sped up. His hands left afterimages in the air as he fused tiny bits of pitch black flames into the center of each rune.

All of these runes seemed to have been gifted with life. A small dark phoenix was stored into each one, shaking as if they wanted to spread their wings and soar away.

Dark flames jumped over all the runes, dancing amongst them.

Everyone watched with bated breath, not even daring to blink their eyes in case there was the smallest change in the flame runes.

Shadow Overflow watched all the more intensely. He even stopped breathing. The most critical time had come!

What he didn't understand the most was how Lin Ming fused the Asura Heavenly Dao into the divine runic symbol. But now, Lin Ming was beginning this third step, the fusion of the Asura Heavenly Dao!

Lin Ming flicked his finger and a deep blue god rune shot out. This was a rare blue soul level god rune and one of the necessary materials.

At this time, the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws descended, drawing unbelievable lines in space. The path of these lines was elusive and unpredictable. Ordinary people only needed to glance at them a single time to feel dizzy.

"This is it! This is it!"

Shadow Overflow widened his eyes so much that they nearly popped out of their sockets. This was the moment he had been waiting for! But, he was completely unable to understand the pattern of these Laws at all! He wildly roared in his heart. At this time, a brilliant white light flooded out, covering Shadow Overflow's field of vision. Even so, he wasn't willing to close his eyes. He stubbornly persisted even as the light scorched him and

his eyes turned blood red!

This was a brilliance radiated by the Asura Heavenly Dao. Even a World King powerhouse would feel pained by staring into this light. As for a Divine Lord or Holy Lord realm powerhouse that didn't understand the Asura Heavenly Dao, they might have simply lost their eyesight by now!

Shadow Overflow's eyes began to drip blood. He naturally knew that these strange patterns were the true reason as to why Lin Ming's divine runic arts were so powerful!

However, even though he used all the dark divine runic arts techniques at his disposal, even though his eyes bled, he still wasn't able to read the patterns or comprehend what was happening!

“How could this be!! Where have I gone wrong!?!?”

Shadow Overflow nearly went crazy as he tried to grasp something. However, time was rapidly passing.

When that endless brilliant glory condensed together, it converged with all the strange Heavenly Dao Law patterns, condensing onto a single ordinary symbol paper.

Heavenly Fire Symbol – complete!

Lin Ming let out a long breath of relief. He had consumed a great deal of energy just now. In order to guarantee a 100% success rate with this Heavenly Fire symbol, Lin Ming hadn't held back any use of his soul force. This also made the Heavenly Fire Symbol he just drew even more perfect!

After finishing all of this, Lin Ming fell onto the divine runic table, propping himself up with his right hand.

As for Old Xue, he had already hurriedly received the divine runic symbol.

Closing his eyes, Old Xue sensed the runic structure within and

sighed in praise!

“Good brat, this Heavenly Fire Symbol is even better than the first one I used!”

Old Xue’s words caused the audience to gasp in marvel. At this time, without saying a word further, Song Wen immediately activated the testing array formation!

Even though no one suspected Lin Ming any longer, only by witnessing the truth for themselves could they be shocked!

When the dreamscape of the Great Desolate appeared and the vicious beasts manifested, a dreadful explosion filled the air and roiling flames surged forth. Old Xue’s actions were quick and decisive. He used the Heavenly Fire Symbol that Lin Ming just made to burn down a World King vicious beast!

This power was far too terrifying! It was even stronger than the first test!

If this were used by a peak Holy Lord, then although the strength would be weaker than that displayed by Old Xue, as long as it struck it wouldn’t be a problem to severely wound a World King!

At the conclusion of the test, Old Xue glanced at Shadow Overflow with relish in his eyes. He cheekily grinned and said, “I must say Old Shadow, I think you nearly snapped your neck in half trying to get a good look just now. Tell me, did you discover anything interesting?” Although Old Xue wasn’t a dark divine runic master, he could tell from Shadow Overflow’s grim complexion that he hadn’t had any harvests at all. At this time, Shadow Overflow’s face was darker than the bottom of a pot!

Shadow Overflow didn’t say anything. He composed himself, deeply staring at Lin Ming, not bothering to conceal the deep killing intent in his eyes. Then, without further ado, he silently returned to his VIP suite.

“I won’t see you off.” Song Wen faintly smiled. He stepped onto

the auction stage and loudly said, “Everyone, the auction will begin soon. Little Brother Lin...”

“Of course.” Lin Ming responded. He took out a special symbol and used a divine runic pen to leave behind a soul force mark. This mark had Lin Ming’s unique soul fluctuations within it; it was impossible to fake.

Song Wen used this light promissory note that Lin Ming just drew up and placed it on the auction stage platform. He said, “Everyone, my Divine Rune City Auction House will now auction off Mister Lin’s promissory note. If there is no objection, then we shall begin!”

Chapter 1643 – Sky High Auction Bid

“President Song, hurry up with the auction. Sir Lin has already proven his strength. If he wishes to sell those promissory notes then Setting Sun City’s Far East Family is willing to bid!”

“I am Great Yang City’s Ouyang Hou, I am also willing to...”

For a time, many people were shouting out loud, urging Song Wen to hurry with the auction.

Seeing this, Song Wen faintly smiled. “Since everyone feels this way I won’t waste your time with idle talk. The auction shall now begin. The base price is zero! Every increase in price cannot be less than 20 million!”

Zero base price?

As Song Wen’s voice fell, everyone was stirred into an uproar.

Song Wen starting the base price at zero was in order to have all the bidders lose any sort of standard in their heart. It was impossible for them to weigh the value of these 500 Heavenly Fire Symbols. Like this, it was possible to produce a sky high bid!

On the other hand, setting a high base bid at the start would cause many people to lose all courage to bid. This would dampen the atmosphere and prevent the fiery competition required.

This was the first time that Song Wen was auctioning promissory notes; before this, he had never tried before. This was simply an amazing precedent, especially for the Divine Rune City Auction House that was renowned throughout the entire inner Asura Road.

If these promissory notes had sold for a low price then the Divine Rune City Auction House would be mocked by their peers. But now, it seemed the chances of that were extremely low!

And once sold for a dramatic amount, Divine Rune City Auction House would actually create a legend!

“100 million!”

Someone shouted out from the lower seats.

“150 million!”

“200 million!”

Just as that person finished bidding another person immediately increased the bid. There were even several people shouting at once.

As the auction started, many of the martial artists in the scattered lower seats were impatiently bidding.

100 million? 200 million?

“This is just a joke!”

The first person who urged President Song, Far East Miao from Setting Sun City, suddenly sneered.

Lin Ming had just drawn up a divine runic symbol and had even received an 800 million advance to do so. Wasn't it just an insult to bid 100-200 million?

At this time, Far East Miao stood up and loudly shouted, “My Far East Family bids 1.3 billion!”

Those with different status and perspective often had decidedly different judgments.

Many people in the lower seats were shocked. They had shouted out 100-200 million just then, but now someone had shouted out a bid of over a billion. This was just a bit too odd for them.

“1.4 billion!”

An indifferent voice shouted out from the VIP suites. It was unknown who the bidder was.

“1.5 billion!” Suya's senior-apprentice brother suddenly shouted after a moment of silence,

The Extreme Star Holy Lands definitely wouldn't miss out on

shouting a bid!

As it was, they had already missed a chance to be on good terms with Lin Ming. After experiencing Lin Ming's monstrous talent in the divine runic arts, who would miss out on a second time?

And, what was even more important was that if they obtained these fifth grade divine runic symbols from Lin Ming, the effects they would have on their war against the Heaven Strife Holy Lands would be immeasurable!

Of course, Suyu's senior-apprentice brother knew that 1.5 billion was only the start. Wanting to buy these Heavenly Fire Symbols with this amount was far from enough.

"1.8 billion..." On the west side, a crisp voice sounded out from a mysterious VIP suite. As Suyu's senior-apprentice brother thought, 1.5 billion fell far short of being enough.

At this time, no one in the lower seats was able to speak.

This was now a battle between the VIP suites!

The shouts of bids had already slowed down. It wasn't that 1.8 billion approached the upper limits of the Heavenly Fire Symbols' value, but because many people in the VIP suites were using secret techniques to contact their headquarters.

Of these people, many of them had tools similar to the Thousand Mile Heartlink. As long as they were all in the same universe they could contact each other no matter how far they were.

"High Elder, there is an urgent matter I must report to you. There is a talented divine runic master that has produced a batch of divine runic symbols... these are promissory notes. Don't be startled, please allow me to explain..."

"Open the image transmitting array. I must transmit an image of the fifth grade Heavenly Fire Symbol to the Sovereign... I must ask the Sovereign to authorize at least 2.5 billion points for us to bid with..."

When Old Xue tested the Heavenly Fire Symbol, there was a good number of people who were interested and had recorded a phantom video with array discs.

As multiple sound transmission stones lit up throughout the VIP suites, more and more influences joined in on the auction!

“I haven’t even finished speaking with headquarters and the bid has risen to 2 billion! These damned people!”

Suya angrily thought. She had just applied for 2 billion points with some difficulty, but just as she was about to call out a bid, the current bid had surpassed 2 billion! It seemed that even 2.5 billion wouldn’t be enough!

“Junior-apprentice Sister Suyu, don’t worry. The Sovereign is already contacting several Elders of the Heavenly Palace to have them help.”

Because of the war against the Heaven Strife Holy Lands, the sect reserves of the Extreme Star Holy Lands had nearly run dry.

To increase the bid again, that would be with the Elders taking out their own private wealth and adding it together. Once the sect regained their strength these Elders would naturally be repaid.

As the bid climbed to 2.3 billion, the entire auction hall arena had calmed down.

To bid 2.3 billion for promissory notes written by Lin Ming, this was simply a crazy scenario!

“2.5 billion!” Setting Sun City’s Far East Miao shouted out between clenched teeth. However, even though he had tossed all his chips onto the table, he still wasn’t able to stop the price from dramatically rising.

And 2.5 billion wasn’t even high enough to give Song Wen a chance to start a countdown. At this time, Suyu emerged from her VIP suite. She gracefully floated in the skies of the arena hall and clearly said, “2.6 billion!”

Suya had already applied for all the points she could. Originally, she thought that it was enough but now she realized it wasn't. The points she had requested had all been reserved. If she had used too many then they really wouldn't be able to win the white birch spirit root later!

However, the Vice Palace Master had informed her that they could find other solutions to search for points for the white birch spirit root.

Seeing Suyu push the bid to nearly 3 billion points, Far East Miao's complexion changed. Even 2.5 billion wasn't enough to shake off these competitors. He had wanted to obtain these 500 Heavenly Fire Symbols no matter what and had applied for a massive volume of points to do so. But, he never thought that the auction battle for these promissory notes would intensify to such a brutal degree!

He lifted his hand, wanting to bid once more. However, his hand was shaking already. This was not a small number! It wouldn't be something their Far East Family would be able to easily withstand.

He grit his teeth, wanting to raise the bid once more. But at this time, from the highest sections of the VIP suites, a dignified voice echoed out. "3 billion!"

This voice shocked everyone. They all looked towards the VIP suite that shouted this price and as they did they all sucked in a breath of cold air.

Those were the rooms of Empyrean Lionheart!

Empyrean Lionheart had actually shouted out a price!

Since the auction started, the two Empyreans here had yet to say a single word. It was clear that up until now, there was nothing that was able to arouse their interest.

But now, Empyrean Lionheart actually spoke for the first time, and his first words were to issue a mindboggling bid!

Before this, who would have thought that an Empyrean level character's first words at the Divine Rune City Auction would be to call out a sky high bid, and all for the promissory notes of a Divine Lord realm junior!

“3... 3 billion...”

Hearing Empyrean Lionheart's voice, Far East Miao paled and slumped back into his seat. 3 billion was a bid that caused him to lose all heart to continue bidding. With the background of their Far East Family, they had no qualifications to struggle with Empyrean Lionheart.

To compete with an Empyrean... not everyone had the courage to do so. This was not just pressure that came from a high bid, but pressure that came from strength. How could common martial artists dare to struggle with an Empyrean?

But at this time, from another VIP suite, Suya bit her lips. With an unwilling expression she took a deep breath and called out, “3.1 billion!”

This feminine voice had a powerful piercing strength, spreading through the entire audience. For a time, Suya caught the attention of everyone!

The audience was shocked. This woman dared to challenge Empyrean Lionheart!

At this time, Suya's milk-white breasts were violently heaving. Her back and her palms were both wet with sweat! To compete with an Empyrean was to directly face their majesty and dignity; this was an incredible level of pressure.

“3.2 billion!”

Empyrean Lionheart spoke out again, raising the bid once more!

“3.3 billion!”

Suya seemed to have been roused to anger. She refused to

concede!

“Oh?” Empyrean Lionheart’s eyebrow arched up. He fell quiet for several breaths of time, and then his voice once again spread through the entire audience. “3.6 billion!”

Empyrean Lionheart had poured a powerful momentum into his voice, making anyone who listened feel afraid to disobey.

As soon as this bid of 3.6 billion was called out, everyone in the audience felt their hearts shake!

Suya was also pale white. Through today’s sudden development she had been keeping in contact with the Extreme Star Holy Lands even as she engaged in a bidding battle with an Empyrean; she was already unable to continue!

“Junior-apprentice Sister, please give up! Don’t fight anymore, we’ll have more opportunities in the future.” Suya’s senior-apprentice brother said, feeling a little bitter.

At this time, Suya’s cheeks were blushing red and she was dripping fragrant sweat.

She bit her lips as if she wanted to bid again but she didn’t have the energy to break past the barrier of 3.6 billion that Empyrean Lionheart had set up.

At this time, her eyes touched upon Lin Ming. Although his expression was indifferent, his lips still moved as he spoke two simple words to her.

Suya was stunned. Lin Ming had said, “Don’t worry.”

With these two simple words, Suya felt the tight pressure over her heart lighten.

She knew that Lin Ming would certainly have another way to help her so that she wouldn’t need to struggle with something she couldn’t win against.

Suya’s heart warmed. Her nose burned just a little.

“Thank you...”

Suya replied as she slumped down in her VIP suite. Even if Lin Ming didn't say anything she truly didn't have the means to continue competing for the bid.

“3.6 billion, is there anyone willing to bid higher?”

Song Wen's eyes flitted over the audience. His gaze stopped on the VIP suite of another Emphyrean – Emphyrean Minor Violet. However, this famous woman Emphyrean had yet to say a single word.

He counted down. No one challenged the current bid price.

“Then, I declare that Lin Ming's promissory note of 500 Heavenly Fire Symbols has sold for 3.6 billion points! Congratulations to Emphyrean Lionheart!”

Song Wen loudly proclaimed as he struck his mallet against the podium. At this time, even his hands were shaking!

In Song Wen's life he had already presided over countless auctions. There were even many treasures he had auctioned off which sold for far more than 3.6 billion. But, to auction a promissory note for 3.6 billion, that was definitely a first!

That meant that on average, every Heavenly Fire Symbol sold for 7.2 million! This was a truly mindboggling price!

By relying on these Heavenly Fire Symbols, Lin Ming had drawn up a single one and had auctioned off 500 in advance for a total gain of 4.37 billion points!

Earning this amount of points so quickly couldn't even be described as crazy!

The final bid price of 3.6 billion left the entire audience stewing in silence for some time.

After a while, there was a round of applause from the audience that originated from their innermost respect and shock.

Afterwards, through the representatives sent to the auction by the various influences, this news spread out via a variety of means!

If these were ordinary times, then people would suspect this was just some fake hype being created, or that the one buying was an idiot. But, the final bidder to win was Empyrean Lionheart!

Who would dare say that Empyrean Lionheart was an idiot? Empyrean Lionheart's judgment was far from what an ordinary person could compare with!

Moreover, with the status of an Empyrean, how could they possibly work with an auction house as a bid manipulator?

With this, no one dared to question the veracity of this news!

The Divine Rune City Auction had originally been under the attention of many people and had been a great topic of discussion. But after this event, it was like a wildfire had been set off!

The one to sell the promissory note was only a human, Divine Lord realm junior!

Not just that, but this Divine Lord realm junior had drawn up a divine runic symbol in front of an audience of hundreds of thousands, including even Grandmaster Overflow and over a dozen other dark divine runic masters!

And what was even more ridiculous was that not only did this Divine Lord realm junior not fear these dark divine runic masters copying his techniques, but he instead forced them to hand over almost 800 million points as a viewing fee!

From the complexions of Shadow Overflow and those dark divine runic masters, the audience had been able to speculate that they hadn't been able to learn anything at all, even after paying the fee to spy!

This left many people even more panic-stricken, causing the news to spread further out!

For a time, news of ‘an Empyrean spent 3.6 billion points buying a promissory note’, and ‘a Divine Lord realm junior spent less than a day to earn 4.37 billion points’ spread throughout the various intelligence networks. Many people spoke of this in restaurants and city squares. This news could be said to overwhelm the world!

This also caused the popularity of this year’s Divine Rune City Auction to dramatically rise!

Because of this news, many people began to rush towards Divine Rune City. Seeing was believing. All of them found it hard to believe that a Divine Lord realm junior was able to accomplish such miracles.

However, matters didn’t end here!

As everyone believed that the auction of the Heavenly Fire Symbol promissory note was the greatest and most explosive news of the Divine Rune City auction, and would even surpass all other news that the other surrounding auction houses would be able to come up with, the Divine Runic Masters Guild actually released yet another astonishing burst of news!

It was that, in half a month, the creator of the improved Heavenly Fire Symbol would hold an auction for another improved version of a divine runic symbol – the Heretical God Symbol!

As for this Heretical God Symbol, its power even surpassed that of the Heavenly Fire Symbol! All representatives of great influences were invited to attend the Divine Rune City Auction!

For a time, many great influences within the inner Asura Road began to stir.

Even many Empyrean level characters started to quietly enter Divine Rune City...

Chapter 1644 – Gathering of Greats

Half a month passed in the blink of an eye.

During this period of time, the treasure fair also auctioned off many valuables treasures, all of them triggering a wave of enthusiasm.

But, what people loved to talk about the most and what attracted the most attention was an auction that had yet to begin – the Heretical God Symbol.

Half a month ago, a Divine Lord realm divine runic master called Lin Ming had used an improved Heavenly Fire Symbol and a promissory note for 500 Heavenly Fire Symbols to create a miracle in the history of the auction hall.

Now, just how amazing would this Heretical God Symbol be, one purported to be stronger than the improved Heavenly Fire Symbol?

Nearly everyone's gaze was focused on the Heretical God Symbol that was soon to be auctioned.

During the last auction, when the improved Heavenly Fire Symbol had severely wounded a powerful vicious beast like the Golden Phoenix Crow and had even reformed multiple times afterwards, the images of this event had been recorded in an array disc and spread all throughout Divine Rune City.

Of those that saw the image recordings, all were left shaking.

It wasn't just the inner Asura Road, but even some influences in the outer Asura Road had heard about this event and were quickly catching up.

After the long wait of half a month, the hope and desire had brewed for so long that it was a volcano waiting to explode.

On this day, the dappled sunlight was bright. The deep blue sky

was as clear as a mirror, crystal bright and beautiful.

From the moment that Divine Rune City lifted the guardian array formations that protected the city, all sorts of space channels opened up in the skies. Massive ships emerged from these space channels, all of them powered by potent energy crystals.

Rumble! Rumble! Rumble!

The smallest of these ships was more than 30 feet high. They flew forwards like floating treasure palaces, emitting bursts of radiant light.

The hulls of these ships were carved with images of phoenixes and dragons. Innumerable runes shimmered around them like a sea of stars.

“Holy crap, I fear that every single one of those ships is holding a Sovereign level character... incredible, too incredible...” In the crowd of people, a visitor that came from outside of Divine Rune City stared up at the treasure ships in the sky, praising the scene.

“Sovereign?” A local of Divine Rune City looked at this visitor with disdain in his eyes. This visitor’s cultivation wasn’t high and he had only relied on a little bit of business sense to earn some money. Such a person didn’t have status nor did they have much respect. “Each of those treasure ships is seating a concubine. They are the concubines of the ruler of Providence Edge Nation, Xu Wuzi.”

“What? Concubines!?” The visitor’s eyes widened. He found this hard to believe.

“What’s so strange about it...?” The one speaking seemed annoyed. “Providence Edge Nation’s ruler is an Emphyrean that has been safeguarding the destiny of the nation for over 10 million years. He rarely leaves but today he actually came to visit our Divine Rune City. It seems this year’s treasure fair is becoming increasingly splendid!”

“Empyrean?”

The visitor was panic-stricken. This was yet another Empyrean!

The divine runic symbols that Lin Ming created were not of much personal use to an Empyrean. However, they were extremely useful to the influences that these figures raised. In other words, they were sharp weapons of war!

And this auction of divine runic symbols would inevitably involve a large number of points. Only an Empyrean personally attending would be able to instantly increase the price as they wanted. Their subordinates wouldn't have the courage to do so.

As the day of the auction neared, heroes gathered from all corners of the world. Large numbers of different races and clans rushed in like tidal waves.

The flying castle added on eight space channels constructed with top quality space crystals. These space channels connected to massive sphere-like VIP suites within the auction hall arena.

Looking up from the ground, it was like the floating castle had grown eight long tentacles.

At this time, within the entire castle, everyone single seat and room was packed to the brim.

Several items had already been auctioned at the start, but these items hadn't been able to stir up much of a wave.

The atmosphere was extremely strange. There wasn't much movement originating from the VIP suites.

A tall hourglass floated high in the sky. The yellow sand within rustled to the bottom, soon about to finish.

Finally, within the many peaceful rooms, there was movement.

Song Wen wore a meticulously-prepared robe as he stepped onto the auction stage. He smiled and said, “Ladies and gentlemen, you've had to wait a long time. The next auction will be for the

Heretical God Symbols!”

Song Wen’s voice was brief and potent. Although it was short and to the point, it rumbled through every corner of the castle, spreading into every room.

For a time, the movements in the various rooms slowed down.

The auction for the Heretical God Symbols was finally about to begin!

“Is this Heretical God Symbol even more powerful than the improved Heavenly Fire Symbol?” Many people thought, their eyes burning with a blazing light. Their eyes locked onto Song Wen as he took out a gray spirit stone box.

“This Heretical God Symbol is known as being even stronger than the improved Heavenly Fire Symbol? How is it stronger?”

Many people began to ask from the VIP suites.

In truth, besides the Emphyreans, although many people waddled over here like packs of ducks to join the auction for the Heretical God Symbol, almost none of them had hopes of successfully winning the bid.

The previous auction for the Heavenly Fire Symbol promissory note had already left them feeling powerless and frustrated. Moreover, this Heretical God Symbol was said to be stronger than the Heavenly Fire Symbol. It was hard to predict just how high and terrifying the final bid price would be. Thus, most people came because they wanted to see the might of the Heretical God Symbol with their own eyes.

Song Wen had already expected this situation. He placed his hand on the spirit stone box and turned around to look behind. At this time, a black-clothed youth silently entered the auction stage from the back. His aura was restrained, his figure was tall and straight, and his steps were slow and steady, each step he took seeming to resonate with the heartbeats of those in the audience.

This youth was Lin Ming.

The one to personally test the Heretical God Symbol would be Lin Ming!

Only by demonstrating the true potency of the Heretical God Symbol in front of everyone would the following bidding war be at its most intense. This was all in order to raise the final bidding price as much as possible.

“He is the creator!”

In the entire auction hall arena, many people recognized Lin Ming.

As people recognized Lin Ming and pointed him out, Lin Ming could feel countless senses locking onto him from the VIP suites.

In particular, several senses were as deep as the vast sea. Compared to those dark divine runic masters that spied on him just half a month ago, these senses were dozens and hundreds of times more terrifying!

It was clear that the masters of these senses were supreme beings of the Asura Road, many of them being Emphyreans!

These senses did not offend Lin Ming nor did they attempt to pry into the situation of his spiritual sea. Even so, they made Lin Ming’s skin tighten as if the vision of these people was more than enough to lock him in place.

Lin Ming didn’t waste time. He rubbed his hands against the spirit stone box, tracing strange lines across the surface. The seventh grade divine runic box opened, revealing a simple blue divine runic symbol.

As this symbol appeared, it brought with it an ancient and desolate aura, as if it weren’t just drawn up not too long ago.

“What wonderfully mystical Law fluctuations...” Within a VIP suite, a terrifyingly strong old man lowered his hands, his fingers

flicking back and forth so fast they created illusions. It seemed as if he were calculating the meanings behind these lines.

However, the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws' dao patterns were left behind by the Asura Road Master. How could an Empyrean level powerhouse hope to unravel their mysteries?

No matter what this old man tried to calculate, the only result was a frown on this face. He was simply unable to understand what these lines meant. All he could conclude was that this was a special inheritance that Lin Ming studied. That powerful and mysterious master behind Lin Ming... just what sort of person was he?

At this time, on the auction stage, Lin Ming held the Heretical God Symbol in his hands, all of his focus concentrated on it.

His two pupils flashed with a blinding electric purple light. In the palms of his hands, pitch black nirvanic flames slowly emerged, crackling as they burned.

A vast and great aura emerged from the center of that symbol.

The uniqueness of the Heretical God Symbol was that it simultaneously utilized the Fire and Thunder Laws!

And Lin Ming was the ideal candidate to demonstrate the powers of the Heretical God Symbol!

The Heretical God Symbol was an extremely special divine runic symbol. Although its origins lay with the Extreme Dual Polarity Symbol, it had already become fundamentally different.

It had all sorts of special effects. If other people tried to use it and didn't have Lin Ming's instruction and didn't learn the way to activate the Heretical God Symbol, they wouldn't be able to display any of its mysteries!

It wasn't an exaggeration to say that this divine runic symbol was the manifestation of Lin Ming's current highest level of skill!

At this time, Song Wen activated the auction house's illusory

magic array.

Bang - !

The world trembled.

At this time, the surroundings weren't the previous time's primal grasslands. Rather, it was an endless desert of yellow sand, bleak and dreary.

Immersed in this world of yellow sand, everyone was focused on Lin Ming.

All of them wanted to know – just what was so special about this Heretical God Symbol that the Divine Rune City Auction House had propagandized so much about?

Chapter 1645 – Offensive and Defensive

Deep in the yellow sands, one could see two faint tornado-like things sweep up into the air.

In the depths of these yellow tornados, two eyes shined like lanterns in the dark.

As the tornados appeared, one could see an approaching creature whose entire body was wrapped in thick earth-yellow scales, bizarre and otherworldly.

“That’s a mystic yellow tihu!”

In the audience, many people immediately recognized the vicious beast produced by the illusory magic array. The mystic yellow tihu didn’t possess a strong striking power but its defenses were extremely formidable.

Deep in the distant Great Desolate, there were powerhouses that used this vicious beast as a moving castle to lead their people around.

The defensive capabilities of this creature were several times that of an ordinary World King! It even achieved the standard of a weak Great World King!

The Divine Rune City Auction House was actually testing the Heretical God Symbol with this kind of vicious beast. If so, that meant they had full confidence in the strength of the Heretical God Symbol!

“Could it be that this Heretical God Symbol can injure a Great World King?”

The entire audience fell quiet. Many people looked at Lin Ming with rapt attention, waiting for the answer to be shown.

Lin Ming took up the Heretical God Symbol in his palm. Pitch black flames and blazing purple thunder flashed together. At the

same time, countless Asura Heavenly Dao Laws gathered together, connecting with the thunder and fire in Lin Ming's palm.

Seeing as the power of thunder and fire fused together with the Asura Laws, in that moment, Lin Ming's sense and the perception of time seemed to slow down to a crawl, like the slowly flowing grains of sand in an hourglass.

Pulled up by Lin Ming's soul force, the Heretical God Symbol floated up in front of him.

Lin Ming raised his left and right hands. Using his two index fingers, he pierced towards the Heretical God Symbol, causing two light ripples to spread out like a rock hitting a lake surface.

His two pupils immediately flashed with a jolt of electricity that twined around one ripple.

Then, a thin strand of black fire twined around the other ripple.

In front of him, waves of substantialized soul force appeared. The two ripples began to twist in the air as if they were being manipulated by an invisible hand, quickly twisting until they seemed like images of blooming flowers.

The entire process seemed very slow, but it was also completed almost instantly.

And just a few miles away from Lin Ming, at the edges of the desert, one could see those two faint tornados rolling towards him, leaving a swallowed world in their wake.

As for Lin Ming, he remained motionless. All that remained in front of him were these two flashes of thunder and fire.

The auction house's testing array formation was different from the rented testing array formation at the Divine Runic Masters Guild. The rented testing array formation was only an illusory magic array, but this one being activated right now was actually a true illusory killing array!

If one stood motionless and allowed the array formation to freely attack them then they would definitely be grievously wounded!

“What is Lin Ming doing? Has he not activated that Heretical God Symbol? That mystic yellow tihu is about to trample over him!”

But as everyone saw Lin Ming control the faint circles of thunder and fire around him and yet the Heretical God Symbol didn't activate, some people began to develop doubts. Just what was Lin Ming doing?

If Lin Ming was luring the mystic yellow tihu to close range before he detonated the Heretical God Symbol, then he too would be affected by the explosion if the beast was too close!!

Then, people watched as the mystic yellow tihu crossed the 100 foot line from Lin Ming. That distance was the best chance to detonate the Heretical God Symbol!

At this time, the two groups of energy around Lin Ming began to produce tiny patterns of energy composed of threads smaller than silk. These lines of energy pulled into the void, developing into numerous patterns.

In just a twinkle of the eye, a series of thin energy lines spread out, surrounding Lin Ming. Moreover, these energy lines were all different from each other. They were energy patterns that those present had never seen before, and seemed to contain tens of millions of possible changes within them. Each energy line seemed to entangle with the others, inspiring more and more changes. In just an instant, half of these energy lines that were drawn out developed into threads of shining lightning and the other half developed into glistening threads of fire, rapidly condensing into a red and purple two-colored array diagram.

At this time, the tyrannical tsunami of sand that rushed over struck Lin Ming, but was completely submerged into the thunderfire array diagram in his hand.

Seeing this, Xiao Moxian couldn't help but cry out in alarm. Although she knew in her heart that Lin Ming was safe, she still couldn't avoid her heart clenching upon seeing such a sight.

Bang!

A massive explosion occurred!

The mystic yellow tihu with its incomparably firm body and its maximum velocity crashed into the thunderfire array diagram!

It was a meteor impacting into the earth. A powerful impact swept outwards, bringing up waves of yellow sand that were tens of thousands of tons heavy!

This terrifying strength left the entire auction hall shaking! Everyone found it hard to remain still and some of the weaker martial artists couldn't help but cry out in alarm.

Lin Ming hadn't attacked from beginning to end. Instead, he used the thunderfire array diagram to block the frontal dash of the mystic yellow tihu!

As the yellow sands settled, everyone saw that the mystic yellow tihu had its head left bloodstained after colliding with the thunderfire array diagram. As for the thunder array diagram, it only slightly bent without any sign of breaking! By using the power of the Heretical God Symbol alone, Lin Ming had defended against an attack with the all-out strength of an ordinary World King.

Could this be a defensive divine runic symbol?

Everyone immediately thought. A defensive divine runic symbol was rarely seen and was often much more expensive than offensive divine runic symbols.

But when they heard the description from Divine Rune City, the Heretical God Symbol should have been an immensely destructive divine runic symbol!

Before people had more time to think, Lin Ming suddenly grasped

the Heretical God Symbol with both hands and pushed it out.

The palm-sized Heretical God Symbol suddenly rose and countless threads of thunder and fire spun around until they formed a massive vortex, instantly covering the heavens and earth. This vortex formed a giant web that wrapped around the massive mystic yellow tihu.

In that moment, within the endless yellow sands, a brilliant light erupted like a rising sun.

In the middle of this light, crackling bolts of thunder twisted around with a conflagration of raging flames.

The flames and thunder twisted together, roaring like the birth of a fire dragon and thunder dragon.

Several hundred earth-shaking explosions echoed out from the midst of the giant vortex of raging flames and twisting thunder, illuminating the world like a descending apocalypse.

Thunder collapsed the earth as snakes of fire shot to the heavens.

Within this vortex, the mystic yellow tihu roared out again and again, but its howls slowly turned lower and deeper as it gradually faded away...

The explosions produced a brilliant light that formed an incomparably thick swirling column of thunder and fire. As it rapidly spun around, the world seemed to tear apart around it as the surrounding ground caved in, forming a massive crater hundreds of miles deep.

From where the explosions occurred, a pit so deep appeared that one couldn't see the bottom.

The mystic yellow tihu's scales had nearly all fallen off. Its giant tail dangled to the ground.

Although it was still living, it was on the verge of death, approaching death with every breath it took.

“Within the Heretical God Symbol, the mark of the Asura Heavenly Dao patterns will reverse in the void to reform yin yang patterns of the Asura Heavenly Dao... this also agrees with the true meaning of the Extreme Dual Polarity Symbol, the absolute polars of thunder and fire... the power is as expected. Moreover, with the revolution of yin and yang, it can attack but also instantly form a defensive barrier when the symbol is activated!”

Drops of sweat dripped down the tip of Lin Ming's nose. He was extremely satisfied with the performance of the Heretical God Symbol.

In creating the Heretical God Symbol, Lin Ming had consumed a great deal of effort and diligent care. As he created the Heretical God Symbol, his comprehension of the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws also became much deeper...

At this time, in all the rooms and seats, everyone had forgotten how to speak.

This was a dual offensive and defensive divine runic symbol!

Normally, divine runic symbols were one-time use items that could either be used to defend or attack. But, the net of thunder and fire formed by the Heretical God Symbol was an offensive and defensive form!

Imagine. Two martial artists were in a life or death battle and both had utilized all of their abilities and were completely exhausted.

At the end, they both used their ultimate finishing blows. But at this time, one side took out a Heretical God Symbol, defending against the opponent's attack but also erupting with a terrifying attack, directly covering the enemy in a sea of thunder and flame! Just what sort of effect would that have?

Moreover, this Heretical God Symbol had reached a terrifying degree of strength whether it was in defense or offense. Even that

mystic yellow tihu with an incredible defensive power comparable to a weak Great World King had been beaten half-dead!

In other words, even if one were a Great World King, if they didn't understand the unique attributes of the Heretical God Symbol and were fooled, they would be placed in an extremely difficult situation, possibly even injured!

For a time, the entire castle fell silent. One could clearly hear the breathing of others even from a long distance.

And at this time, that brutal and violent power of thunder and fire in the skies began to gather together. The lines of the Asura Heavenly Dao condensed, forming endless starlight that sprinkled down.

The power of thunderfire and the Asura Heavenly Dao was sucked into a giant vortex. Then, it shrank until it finally transformed into a perfectly intact divine runic symbol that fell into Lin Ming's hand.

The Heretical God Symbol was reborn!

Seeing this scene, although many people had expected it earlier, they couldn't help but feel their jaws drop down, shocked speechless.

To be reborn and reused, this was the special attribute of the 'Lin' logo!

However, when one considered the Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol that wasn't much stronger than the original, it wasn't too amazing even if it could be used multiple times.

Following that was the Heavenly Fire Symbol. It was ridiculously powerful, to the point of being obscene. Moreover, it could also be used multiple times. This was far more impressive and also the reason that they sold for a sky high price of 3.6 billion points.

But now, this Heretical God Symbol was both offensive and defensive, and in the attack process there seemed to be all sorts of

incredible changes as if there were many more mysteries waiting to be unlocked, but Lin Ming simply hadn't had the time to reveal them.

This divine runic symbol that could nearly bring the dead back to life in a dire situation, that was so abnormal that it could wound a Great World King, could actually be used multiple times!

This just destroyed all common sense! If one had several Heretical God Symbols in hand, then an ordinary World King would be able to challenge and speak the last words with a weak Great World King!

And if used in a war, there was definitely no need to speak of their efficacy! These were different from the Nirvanic Tribulation Flame Symbol because these Heretical God Symbols could be used in battles between high level figures of the sects. If using a Heretical God Symbol was able to turn certain defeat into victory between a battle of World Kings, then this would be worth an astronomical level of wealth!

It had to be known that every World King was formed by piling up an immense amount of resources!

Thinking of this, the complexions of the several Emphyreans in the VIP suites began to change.

Chapter 1646 – Conditions of an Emphyrean

“Little Brother Lin’s test has ended. Elder Xue, I would also like to ask you to evaluate the rank of this divine runic symbol.” Song Wen took a deep breath, his eyes excited. He had a premonition that today’s auctions would reach all new heights!

Elder Xue froze for a moment. His eyes reluctantly moved away from the illusory magic array.

“This is...” Elder Xue hesitated for several breaths of time. Then, he said, “Little friend Lin Ming, this Heretical God Symbol... how many times can it be used?”

Elder Xue’s eyes were affable as he looked at Lin Ming.

“About three or four times...” Lin Ming said after thinking about it for some time. If he used it himself, he could use it up to five times, but others didn’t have this ability. “Because it can attack and defend, the flow of energy is extremely great and the burden on the tiny runes is much larger, thus it can only be used this many times.”

Out of the three divine runic symbols that Lin Ming had improved, the Heretical God Symbol was the one that could be used the least number of times.

This was the price of great power. But, this power alone was enough to drive others crazy.

This was a top grade divine runic symbol that could even resist a Great World King!

This power was far more important than the number of times it could be used. If the power was lacking then even if it could be used several times it still wouldn’t be as useful as one tremendous attack!

“Formidable might, excellent technique... this divine runic symbol can compare to a superior sixth grade divine runic symbol

in power alone, but it also has the characteristic of being offensive and defensive as well as being able to be used multiple times... and, most importantly, the restrictions to use it are far, far lower than those of a superior sixth grade divine runic symbol. Because of all of these factors, its value cannot be compared to that of an ordinary superior sixth grade divine runic symbol. It's impossible for me to determine its exact price. I will have to ask everyone else to make their own judgment."

Elder Xue summarized after thinking for some time.

Superior sixth grade – that was the domain of a Great World King!

"Superior sixth grade!?" Many people were left dumbfounded by this. If Lin Ming's divine runic arts skill continued to rise, then he might be able to draw up a true superior sixth grade divine runic symbol. Perhaps he even might be able to draw up a quasi-seventh grade divine runic symbol!

What sort of concept was a seventh grade divine runic symbol?

If a World King powerhouse used one, they could pose a threat to a half-step Emphyrean!

"What a wonderful treasure. Indeed, it is much better than the improved Heavenly Fire Symbol. This trip was not made in vain..."

"Although the Heretical God Symbol takes a decent amount of time to gather enough potential, it can actually defend during this time!"

"This Lin Ming's strength also far surpasses other martial artists of his level. Although he appears to only be at the Divine Lord realm, using that divine runic symbol requires strength at least at the peak Holy Lord realm. If an ordinary Divine Lord martial artist were to use this divine runic symbol their soul force would have completely dried up by now..."

It wasn't known who said this, but these sudden words seemed to

wake everyone up from their daze. Because Lin Ming created miracle after miracle, many people forgot that he was a mere Divine Lord realm martial artist.

“If that’s the case, then let us begin the auction! The promissory note is still for 500 divine runic symbols. The base price is zero and every increase in bidding cannot be less than 50 million points!”

Song Wen’s voice was boisterous. But just as the bidders were about to engage in a crazy bidding war, a light voice called out, “These 500 promissory notes, just when they will be fulfilled?”

This voice echoed out from the VIP suites, carrying with it indescribable vicissitudes, as if these years contained the concept of endless time.

Everyone was startled. They looked up towards the VIP suites and immediately felt a chill crawl up their backs.

The one speaking was the supreme ruler of Providence Edge Divine Nation, Xu Wuzi. Xu Wuzi had broken into the Empyrean realm many years ago, and he also had high attainments in alchemy and the divine runic arts.

And even Empyrean level divine runic masters wanted to purchase Lin Ming’s divine runic symbols.

Whether it was the Heretical God Symbol or Heavenly Fire Symbol, their most important characteristic was the lowered requirements that allowed lower level martial artists to use them. This was an ability that not even Empyrean level divine runic masters possessed.

Xu Wuzi was immediately able to see how complex the Heretical God Symbol was. He found it hard to imagine that this was a real fifth grade divine runic symbol!

And correspondingly, the more complex a divine runic symbol was, the more difficult it was to create. The more time that one took to draw up, the likelier the chances were of failure!

A promissory note of 500 Heretical God Symbols was easily said, but the truth was that this order wasn't easy to fulfill, especially if the creator's cultivation wasn't high enough.

Xu Wuzi's vision pierced through the array formations of the VIP suites and fell onto Lin Ming's body.

Song Wen as well as many other bidders also looked at Lin Ming.

Lin Ming thought for a moment. "Perhaps... three years."

Currently, Lin Ming's success rate in drawing up Heretical God Symbols was around 60-70%.

Although he could hold a demonstration of drawing up the Heavenly Fire Symbol in front of everyone, he couldn't do the same with the Heretical God Symbol. Even if he used up all of his soul force in drawing up a single Heretical God Symbol, there was still a considerable chance of failure!

Moreover, drawing up a Heretical God Symbol required a tremendous amount of soul force. The most he could do was one per day.

Considering this speed and also the fact that he had to draw up the Heavenly Fire Symbols, he had then stated the time requirement of three years.

This was a deadline that Lin Ming could afford. It was inevitable that his soul force would slowly increase and with every passing day his understandings of the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws would become more and more profound. Thus, he might not even need such a long time.

"Oh?"

Xu Wuzi was secretly startled!

Other people didn't know what three years meant, but as a divine runic master Xu Wuzi certainly understood what it meant for Lin Ming to complete 500 Heavenly Fire Symbols and 500 Heretical

God Symbols in this time period. Just the Heretical God Symbol alone would completely exhaust the soul force of a sixth grade divine runic master!

“Good! Then I have no problem with bidding on these promissory notes. But, I need a delivery deadline. If I win the bid for the Heretical God Symbols then I hope that every three months the Divine Runic Masters Guild will send the finished divine runic symbols to Providence Edge Nation. If the entire batch of 500 divine runic symbols cannot be completed in three years then I also require the return of all points!”

Xu Wuzi’s words left all the other bidders breathless. This condition was more than ruthless!

If Lin Ming couldn’t fulfill the promissory notes on time then not only would he lose all points, he would also have to pay the money for the materials as well as lose all the time and effort he invested!

This was the same as tossing away three years of hard work!

Many divine runic masters were left dumbstruck.

However, if one was selling promissory notes, there certainly should be a deadline limit. With these conditions, only someone with absolute faith in their abilities would agree. The difficulty of drawing up this Heretical God Symbol was simply dreadful beyond recognition.

Xu Wuzi’s words won the unanimous approval of the many great bidders who came from all over the inner Asura Road! These top characters all had a cultivation at the Empyrean realm. Although they had taken a fancy for the Heretical God Symbol, they wouldn’t wildly bid for a promissory note just because of a brief moment of impulsiveness.

Thus before they began, they all decided to put forth this oppressive condition!

Everyone’s eyes turned to Lin Ming.

In this situation, this oppressive pressure wasn't something that an ordinary person could withstand. Lin Ming's expression was calm. He thought for a moment and said, "Yes, I agree!"

These simple words were filled with vigor, leaving those who heard them shocked. Lin Ming had actually agreed!

His confidence was bewildering. It seemed that he really believed he could complete these divine runic symbols in three years!

"But... I also hope to put forth another condition."

Lin Ming changed the flow of conversation. Xu Wuzi's eyebrows lifted up. He lightly said, "Speak."

"It's not special. I only hope that after the bidding is over, the payment is paid with half points and half rare materials."

Lin Ming had more than enough points right now. What he needed was materials.

And especially rare and precious materials, the kinds that couldn't be found in markets.

"Good, I have no problem with that!"

Xu Wuzi readily agreed. The other Emphyreans also tacitly approved of this.

At this time, Xu Wuzi didn't bother waiting for Song Wen to announce the start of the auction again. He directly opened his mouth and said, "The auction has started, then? Then I will be the first to bid. 4 billion!"

This bid left nearly everyone in the audience choking on themselves.

Even with a base price of zero, Xu Wuzi had directly started with an initial bid of 4 billion! This caused over 99% of bidders in attendance to fall out of the bidding war. They couldn't even summon the courage to think of shouting out a higher price.

Originally, many of them had thoughts of shouting out several

bids. Although they didn't expect to win the Heretical God Symbol, they wanted to bid against Empyreans on the auction stage and also participate in this grand event of the Heretical God Symbol auction. In the future, they could also say to their friends and family that they joined in on this bidding war!

But, they never imagined that Xu Wuzi wouldn't even give them the chance to do so.

From the start, this auction of Heretical God Symbols was a battle between Empyreans!

The entire arena hall fell silent for a time. The auction for the Heretical God Symbols wasn't the heated battle that everyone imagined it would be, with people shouting bid after higher bid.

Rather, this was an extremely somber and wintry war.

Although it was so, every new bid left one panic-stricken!

"4.2 billion!"

A faint woman's voice echoed out. The one calling out this bid was Empyrean Minor Violet. This was only the second bid and yet the price had already reached such heights. Even Empyrean Extreme Star who had rushed here from Extreme Star Heavenly Palace felt himself gasping for breath!

He had a faint premonition that their Extreme Star Holy Lands would lose this time.

These people were simply far too crazy! And their Extreme Star Holy Lands didn't have much wealth remaining.

As Suyu saw Empyrean Extreme Star's somewhat ugly complexion, she guessed that for this auction, their Extreme Star Holy Lands had fallen out of contention.

As for whether or not there would be any harvests, everything would depend on her personal relationship with Lin Ming.

However, Lin Ming had already agreed to complete 1000 divine

runic symbols within three years, so where would he have the time to draw up divine runic symbols for the Extreme Star Holy Lands?

As Suyu was worrying, the bid had already risen to 4.5 billion!

Then, another bid came from Empyrean Minor Violet. It seemed that this woman of mystical origin and strength desired to obtain the Heretical God Symbols no matter the cost.

“4.6 billion!”

Her faint voice echoed through the arena hall. Besides Empyreans shouting out new bids, everyone remained silent. Even the auctioneer Song Wen didn't speak a single word, not even asking if there was anyone wishing to bid a higher price.

“This woman...” Xu Wuzi frowned. He shouted out 4 billion from the start and although this bid seemed exaggerated it was only able to frighten the bidders in the ordinary seats and ordinary rooms. The Empyreans in the VIP suites simply weren't suppressed by him. They bid as they wished to bid and continued to compete if they desired to do so.

“Your Majesty's thoughts must not be thrown into confusion...” An old man cautioned Xu Wuzi from the side. This old man was the Imperial Scholar of Providence Edge Nation. If he was able to speak warning words to Xu Wuzi, it was clear his status was extremely high.

Even though he was reminded to not be thrown into confusion, how could Xu Wuzi remain calm at this time? He feared that his Providence Edge Nation might soon be sucked into the dreadful flames of war, and the reason for this war was related to the final trial...

At this time, another voice echoed out from the VIP suites, “4.8 billion.”

“It's Empyrean Deep Gloom!”

Someone cried out in alarm. The positions of the many

Empyreans weren't a secret to begin with. Moreover, just from the aura of these Empyreans and the mounts and spirit ships on which they arrived, most people were able to correctly guess their identities.

"It was a struggle between two Empyreans but now another one has joined it! I have no idea who the winner will be!"

These Empyrean level characters were all exorbitantly wealthy. To them, it wasn't whether or not they had the money to pay, but just how valuable these 500 Heretical God Symbols were in their minds.

After all, although Empyreans were wealthy, they still had to mull over the worth of spending billions of points.

"4.9 billion!" Xu Wuzi braced himself as he spat out this price. He was already feeling somewhat weak-hearted. If this Empyrean Deep Gloom were shouting at this price at this time, it was likely he came prepared. To him, this bid might only be the opening salvo!

Against such an opponent, Xu Wuzi certainly felt dread!

"5 billion!"

"5.1 billion!"

With this, Empyrean Deep Gloom and Xu Wuzi began to cruelly battle. If they continued struggling like this it was unknown how high the bid would go!

In his VIP suite, although Xu Wuzi had already broken into the Empyrean realm and couldn't be concerned with most treasures in this world, he still found his palms slick with sweat. It was becoming increasingly hard for him to maintain his composure.

"5.5 billion!" Empyrean Deep Gloom suddenly spat out. By suddenly increasing the price by 400 million, it seemed as if Empyrean Deep Gloom wanted to strike Xu Wuzi to death with this single blow!

Xu Wuzi's pupils shrank. He opened his mouth again and again but eventually didn't increase the bid.

And at this time, a clear womanly voice spread through the entire hall. "5 billion points plus a million year dragon saliva grass! These 500 Heretical God Symbols, I will buy them all!"

These sudden words stunned the entire audience. Even Lin Ming straightened up. Million year dragon saliva grass!

What he needed now was dragon saliva grass!

At the Divine Rune City Auction, there was only the jade dragon horn for sale; it was the Dragon Contract that would be auctioned off in several days.

However, there was no dragon saliva grass to be found.

Still, Lin Ming had researched several substitutes for dragon saliva grass. Although they just managed to fulfill the requirements for the Celestial Tyrant Manual, the effects were naturally far inferior to those of dragon saliva grass.

In these past days, Lin Ming had tried to search for dragon saliva grass through several different methods. And, it seems that this news was uncovered by Empyrean Minor Violet.

Before coming to this auction for the Heretical God Symbols, Empyrean Minor Violet had already gathered intel on Lin Ming and came here especially prepared to aim at his needs!

According to the information recorded within the Celestial Tyrant Manual, 500 thousand year dragon saliva grass was sufficient for use. But, Empyrean Minor Violet had suddenly offered million year dragon saliva grass. Just this dragon saliva grass alone was worth over a billion points.

In addition, Empyrean Minor Violet also put forth a bid of 5 billion. In other words, Empyrean Minor Violet's sky-high bid was worth more than 6 billion points in total. On average, every Heretical God Symbol sold for more than 12 million points!

This price was nearly impossible to withstand. Even Lin Ming felt it somewhat ridiculous!

Empyrean Deep Gloom remained completely quiet.

The entire audience fell silent for a long time. Song Wen began counting down from three but no one increased the bid. Finally, this auction was announced as having been won by Empyrean Minor Violet!

With the 6 billion plus points in addition to the wealth that Lin Ming gained from auctioning off the Heavenly Fire Symbols, in just over half a month, Lin Ming had relied on the auction of two promissory notes to obtain a wealth worth 10 billion points.

From hearing this, it was like some bedtime fairytale!

So many great figures had gone crazy about these two promissory notes, and even many Empyrean supreme elders weren't able to afford them. If one didn't witness these events with their own eyes it would be hard to believe!

Many people remained in a shocked state for a long time, feeling nothing but a deep envy and awe. They didn't regain their composure for a long time.

People increasingly admired and became stupefied by this formidable and mysterious youth. He seemed to have emerged from thin air within the inner Asura Road, without any news of him before!

His talent was extraordinary, his strength was unusual, and his divine runic arts inheritance was inconceivable. When this was combined with his young skeletal age, it made Lin Ming a miracle that far outstripped the auction of the Heretical God Symbols!

After several days, the name of Lin Ming and his 'Lin' logo was widely spread through the inner Asura Road. Many great influences in the inner Asura Road learned of him!

And according to the speed at which this news spread, it was

likely that Lin Ming's name would soon spread to every nook and cranny of the inner Asura Road!

What people paid the most attention to was that Lin Ming didn't seem to have joined a sect!

Although Divine Rune City was itself an Empyrean level influence, they were more similar to an alliance of interests and not a true sect.

Divine Rune City also didn't forbid their divine runic masters from joining other sects.

This also caused many influences to hold out an olive branch to Lin Ming.

Some influences even prepared some rare and precious materials, wanting to invite Lin Ming to join them. As for the fiery Divine Rune City Auction, it became even more lively!

In the Divine Runic Masters Guild, the air above Lin Ming's residence was filled with spirit boats. Many messengers from great influences wished to meet with him and discuss having him join their sects.

However, regarding this, Lin Ming used the excuse of needing to maximize his time to fulfill the order of 1000 divine runic symbols within three years to throw all of them off!

Lin Ming was well aware that these influences would undoubtedly put forth attractive conditions to joining them. But at the same time, they also wanted to earn even greater returns from Lin Ming.

Lin Ming didn't plan on staying in the Asura Road for much longer. After the final trial ended, he planned to return to the Divine Realm. If he were to join these influences and accept their gifts, perhaps they might not let him leave so simply.

As for drawing up divine runic symbols for these influences, Lin Ming only needed to draw up a new divine runic symbol and he

could easily sell them at high prices, so why would he need to join these other influences and be subject to all sorts of restrictions?

Thus, even if some people offered to find Lin Ming a jade dragon horn in a short period of time if he joined them, he still wouldn't agree.

Beyond that, there were even those that offered him top living furnaces. Some Emphyreans wished to marry off their granddaughters with special physiques so that Lin Ming could dual cultivate with them. But Lin Ming had no interest in this and rejected them all without exception.

Chapter 1647 – Auction of the Jade Dragon Horn

Because of Lin Ming and the ‘Lin’ logo, the Divine Rune City Auction was even fierier!

Even though Lin Ming’s divine runic symbol auctions had ended, the residual heat had yet to dissipate. The Empyrean level characters hadn’t left and in the next several days all sorts of treasures sold at new heights.

As for Lin Ming, he also purchased a rare material required to refine a variation of soul recovery pill.

This soul recovery pill was not for Lin Ming himself, but was something he was preparing for Empyrean Divine Mist. Before Lin Ming won the auction for the rare material he needed, he had already gone to the Divine Runic Masters Guild to purchase the rest of the necessary materials. Lin Ming felt that with his own current ability in alchemy, combined with his divine runic arts, he could just barely refine a pill that would have an effect on an Empyrean.

During this time, Empyrean Minor Violet also paid the dragon saliva grass to Lin Ming in advance.

The million year dragon saliva grass was a top material amongst top materials.

Normally, dragon saliva grass took 100,000 years to germinate. Then for growing and flowering, that also required another 100,000 years.

After that, in order to mature, there needed to be a Divine Dragon protecting this dragon saliva grass, watering it with saliva daily so that it would eventually grow fruit.

Seizing dragon saliva grass from the claws of a Divine Dragon required an Empyrean to personally go out and capture it!

Thus, the price for this raw material could be imagined!

Lin Ming held the wood spirit jade box in his hands. Looking at the dark jade-colored grass stalk in the box as well as the purple gold-colored fruit, he could feel all his blood energy being pulled by it, as if his blood was about to gush out from his body.

This dragon saliva grass was bred with the life essence of a True Dragon, thus it naturally resonated with Lin Ming's True Dragon bloodline! Even if Lin Ming didn't use this ingredient for alchemy, just swallowing it alone would have immeasurable advantage to him!

Looking at this dragon saliva grass, Lin Ming impatiently wished to start refining the Ravenous Wolf Heaven Pill.

However, as he thought of his current strength, he knew it would be difficult to ensure success in refining this pill.

He could only suppress the restlessness in his heart and put away the dragon saliva grass.

Then, another five days passed.

The Divine Rune City Auction was nearing its end. On this day, on the auction stage, there was something that Lin Ming had to buy!

On the wide auction stage, two beautiful maids pushed in a small cart. This cart had a jade box that was covered with yellow silk on it.

This jade box was seven foot long. After opening it, one could see a treasure that was as high as a person. This treasure was snow white all over. It resembled a giant sickle that didn't have a handle.

Song Wen personally took out this treasure. For a time, the treasure exuded a vast and bleak aura. This aura condensed into a white dragon phantom in the skies as if it would soar away at any moment!

As everyone present saw this white dragon phantom, they felt their surroundings drastically change. They seemed to arrive in a cold and chaotic world with grim animal bones stretching into the endless distance, just like deep in the Great Desolate.

Dragon Contract!

Lin Ming's eyes brightened. This Dragon Contract was refined with a jade dragon horn and was an Empyrean spirit treasure!

A Jade Dragon was also called a White Dragon. It was an extremely rare species within the ancient dragon race and was snow white all over.

Now, in the entire Divine Realm it was impossible to find the tracks of a White Dragon. In order to find a White Dragon, one would need to go to other lands within the 33 Heavens.

Lin Ming had to refine the Ravenous Wolf Heaven Pill, and the jade dragon horn was an irreplaceable material. And, this material was also extremely rare. Since it was being auctioned, Lin Ming definitely wouldn't miss it!

With a wealth of 10 billion points to support him, Lin Ming would obtain this Dragon Contract no matter what!

"Everyone, this is a Dragon Contract that a World King powerhouse found in the depths of an ancient ruin! Moreover, this Dragon Contract has the spirit of a True Dragon sealed within it. The spirit of this True Dragon may be summoned to assist you in battle! Not just that, but the Dragon Contract itself is a sharp weapon that may be used to cut down your enemies!"

Song Wen confidently said. As many martial artists saw this Dragon Contract, their eyes shined with avarice.

"What a good treasure! It's another Empyrean spirit treasure, and quite good even amongst Empyrean spirit treasures!"

"Of course, just the materials used to refine it are extraordinary; it requires an extremely rare jade dragon horn. That material alone

could sell for 700-800 million points and it was only used to refine this treasure!”

Many martial artists, especially World King powerhouses, felt their eyes light up. Although the World Kings present were spectacularly rich, there were very few of them that had Empyrean spirit treasures. Even Great World Kings were the same.

The response of the audience didn't exceed Song Wen's expectations. He faintly smiled and said, “Now the auction shall begin. The base price is one billion points! Every bid increase cannot be less than 20 million points!”

As Song Wen shouted out this base price, many people suddenly deflated as if a bucket of cold water had been tossed over them. Many people that were originally full of enthusiasm suddenly sighed in dejection.

Just the base price was a billion points. The final winning bid was likely to be far higher. Just where would they have the points for this?

In truth, they had already expected that they wouldn't be able to afford this Dragon Contract. It was just that with this top treasure placed in front of them, they couldn't help but daydream about it. If they could really buy it, just how wonderful would that be? And after daydreaming about this treasure, many of them even imagined that they would soon obtain it.

However, the base price shouted by Song Wen caused all of their daydreams to blow up like bubbles.

“1.02 billion!”

A World King grit his teeth and shouted out from an ordinary room.

“1.05 billion.”

Another World King shouted.

“1.1 billion!”

The bid rapidly rose. Generally speaking, an Empyrean wouldn't have any interest in an Empyrean spirit treasure. Those that shouted out bids were mostly World Kings, and those that could put forth a bid of a billion points for an Empyrean spirit treasure were undoubtedly extremely wealthy individuals.

At this time, an old voice echoed out –

“1.3 billion!”

The one calling out this bid was an old man in the ordinary seats! To increase the bid by 200 million it was clear that he wanted this Dragon Contract no matter what!

Many people were surprised by this old man. They were shocked that there was actually such a character in the ordinary seats. This old man wore worn out robes and seemed a bit unkempt, but no one dared to underestimate him because his cultivation was at the Great World King realm!

Many older Great World Kings were well aware that they would never make another breakthrough in their lives, thus they devoted all of their time and energy to researching and refining magic tools to increase their overall combat strength.

This old robed man was clearly in this type of situation.

But after the old robed man spoke, Lin Ming opened his mouth and stretched out two fingers. He slowly said, “2 billion!”

This sudden voice startled the entire audience. Even Song Wen was shocked.

When Lin Ming first spoke he had directly increased the bid to 2 billion! In terms of points, he was filthy, disgustingly rich!

Chapter 1648 – All Materials Collected

“From 1.3 billion to 2 billion all of a sudden!?”

The bidders present looked towards the room that Lin Ming was in. To an Emphyrean, 2 billion was an amount that would hurt but was still something they could take out. But, those that were competing for the Dragon Contract were mostly World King level characters. 2 billion points was definitely an amount that would bankrupt them.

Lin Ming had suddenly increased the bid by 700 million; it wasn't a surprise that everyone was shocked.

“That is Lin Ming's bid!”

“So it's him...”

In these days, the location of Lin Ming's ordinary room had already been memorized by many people. Lin Ming didn't use an isolating array formation either so others were able to see him.

“Lin Ming's bid will make anyone reconsider this auction. The highest bid Emphyrean spirit treasure has only sold for 2 billion so far and that was because it was a battle between two tigers...”

The 2 billion point Emphyrean spirit treasure that was referred to was the Violet Gold Spear purchased by Duke Fullmoon.

Besides Suyu, no one knew that the reason the Violet Gold Spear sold for such a high price was because Lin Ming was deliberately conning Duke Fullmoon.

And in Lin Ming's mind, the Dragon Contract was undoubtedly far more valuable than the Violet Gold Spear!

Just the materials used to refine the Dragon Contract alone were worth over a billion points in total.

Moreover, as the Dragon Contract appeared and Song Wen introduced it, Lin Ming had made a new discovery.

It was that sealed within the Dragon Contract, there was the spirit of a True Dragon. It was possible to summon this spirit to aid one in battle.

The so-called spirit of a True Dragon that Song Wen spoke of was in truth an incomplete dragon soul.

The Dragon Contract had a true wisp of an incomplete dragon soul sealed within it! This was why within the name of this spirit artifact there was the word 'contract'.

A jade dragon horn plus a wisp of a dragon soul, these two divine things were greatly beneficial to Lin Ming. After all, he had the blood of the True Dragon within him. Thus Lin Ming had to win the auction for this Dragon Contract no matter what!

At this time, Lin Ming's eyes moved over to the VIP suite that Duke Fullmoon was in.

In these past days, Duke Fullmoon had been keeping a low profile and was far more subdued than he was in the past. This was because other high level figures of the Divine Void Divine Kingdom's Nine Nether Province had come to Divine Rune City and their goal was also to participate in the grand auction event for the Heretical God Symbol.

Through the array formation of the VIP suite, Lin Ming's eyes and expression were all seen by Duke Fullmoon.

In fact, Duke Fullmoon knew that through the array formations of his suite, it was impossible for Lin Ming to see him. But for some unknown reason, as he caught Lin Ming's gaze, Duke Fullmoon felt his heart chill and he found it hard to keep looking back at him.

This was the pressure that came from Lin Ming continually suppressing Duke Fullmoon all this time!

"This brat!"

Duke Fullmoon clenched his fists. In his eyes, Lin Ming was only a Divine Lord realm boy, and even with all things considered he

was only comparable to a peak Holy Lord. Compared to him, the difference was far from being comparable. However, when he faced Lin Ming he actually felt a bit weak of heart. This feeling of inferiority was extremely uncomfortable to Duke Fullmoon.

At this time, Lin Ming's lips moved.

Duke Fullmoon was startled. Even through the walls and the isolating array formation, he could still clearly sound out Lin Ming's unspoken words.

"I indeed have a great interest in this Dragon Contract. If you're thinking of bleeding me out then you can feel free to shout whatever price you want. But, I won't guarantee that I won't stop at any time I wish. If that happens, I hope you have enough points to be responsible for the bid you called out."

Lin Ming said these words with a confident look. Duke Fullmoon felt ill.

His wealth had just been used to buy up the Violet Gold Spear. Anything left remaining was the wealth of Divine Void Divine Kingdom.

This wealth was all required to buy things desired by the Nine Nether King of the Nine Nether Province; he wasn't able to use it as he pleased. If Lin Ming decided to give up the auction and Duke Fullmoon was discovered as having bid an exorbitant price on this Dragon Contract, then he would be deadlier than dead.

He didn't know just how invested Lin Ming was in obtaining the Dragon Contract. If the events of the Violet Gold Spear were to replay themselves then he really would have no more tears to cry from grief.

If he wanted to struggle with Lin Ming, his entire total wealth now was only around 2 billion points; he simply didn't have the will or the energy to continue competing. Moreover, his need of the Dragon Contract wasn't that intense to begin with. Duke

Fullmoon didn't have the courage to play with his life on the line just to try and con Lin Ming out of several hundred million more points.

"Fullmoon, what is it? It seems that Lin Ming is targeting you?"

A blue-clothed old man asked from beside Duke Fullmoon.

This blue-clothed old man was one of the top aides of the Nine Nether King and also possessed a half-step Empyrean cultivation. Within the Nine Nether Province, his status was a level higher than Duke Fullmoon's.

Concerning Duke Fullmoon and Lin Ming's conflict, besides Suya and a select few others, no one knew of it. Thus, after the blue-clothed old man arrived at Divine Rune City, even he hadn't heard any rumors about it.

This question left Duke Fullmoon looking a bit awkward. He vaguely mumbled, "I only competed for a spear against him..."

Duke Fullmoon said, concealing the fact of his conflict with Lin Ming. The blue-clothed old man nodded, "Mm... it's best if you don't have any conflicts with Lin Ming. This young divine runic master will have a limitless future! The Nine Nether King has a particular focus on this type of person. When I came to Divine Rune City, he advised me to be on good terms with him if possible; he will surely be a great help to us! You must know that between the Seven Provinces of Divine Void Divine Kingdom, the competition is extremely fierce..."

The blue-clothed old man seemed to guess what was happening. As he looked at Duke Fullmoon he spoke with deep hidden meanings in his voice.

Hearing these words, Duke Fullmoon felt as if he had swallowed a fly.

"What? You have grudges with Lin Ming?" The blue-clothed old man's eyes were as bright and illuminating as torches. He could see

that the conflict between Duke Fullmoon and Lin Ming wasn't as simple as stated. "No matter what the reason is, it's best if you resolve these grudges if possible..."

Duke Fullmoon clenched his jaws. He tamped down the bitter sadness in his heart and tried to sound as sincere as he could as he said, "Yes... Fullmoon understands!"

After being maliciously tricked by Lin Ming and then reprimanded by this blue-clothed old man, Duke Fullmoon's mood could be imagined.

.....

"2 billion points, is there a higher bid?"

Song Wen loudly spoke from the auction stage. Potential bidders looked at each other with dismay. Some hesitated, seeming as if they would shout out a higher bid, but eventually none of them could summon the courage to compete with Lin Ming.

Lin Ming's wealth was well known by all. It was simply impossible to defeat him.

However, those with different boundaries had differences in vision. Some people had a highly exaggerated valuation of the Dragon Contract, similar to Lin Ming. In the eyes of some people, just that wisp of incomplete dragon soul was worth nearly a billion points!

"2.1 billion!" A pale man with red hair and a red beard, dressed in dark blue robes spoke up!

He was a half-step Empyrean powerhouse. In truth, he already possessed an Empyrean spirit treasure but was highly interested in this Dragon Contract!

He was a loner without any influence behind him. Thus, he didn't care about access to Lin Ming's divine runic symbols nor did he fear offending Lin Ming.

Originally, most people thought that Lin Ming's ridiculous bid would already mark the end of this auction. But, they didn't think that another change would occur.

"Oh? That person is..."

This other person was similar to Lin Ming and sat in an ordinary room without any isolating array formation. This allowed Lin Ming to sense a faint dragon aura coming from his body.

"I see, so this person has a dragon race bloodline relationship..."

Lin Ming frowned a little. There were far too many outstanding existences here. It wasn't strange for someone to have a dragon race blood lineage.

This meant that to this other person, the Dragon Contract was no less useful than it was for Lin Ming himself!

"2.2 billion!" Lin Ming shouted out, his voice calm.

"2.3 billion!" The old man's eyebrows jumped up. He knew that Lin Ming was rich but he didn't know just how valuable this Dragon Contract was to Lin Ming.

This was because of the difference in their bloodline density and purity. The old man's dragon bloodline was similar to a top figure from the Divine Realm's Ancient Dragon Clan. But compared to Lin Ming who had absorbed the supreme dragon bone from the God Beast Mystic Realm, who had trained in the Eternal Demon Abyss and within Tragic Death Valley's God Beast Array Formation where he had undergone a baptism of a Black Dragon's aura, the differences in bloodline was far too vast. This allowed Lin Ming to sense the bloodline of a dragon within the old man but not the other way around.

"2.4 billion!" Lin Ming flicked his fingers. With this calm tone and expression, it was like points were nothing more than a number to him.

With the bid having reached this degree, the old man's lips

twitched. He gazed at Lin Ming's direction and quietly said, "Young man, the Dragon Contract is inestimably useful to me. You had best not continue competing for it. If you obtain it you will only gain an Empyrean spirit treasure; that is simply a waste of heaven's gifts! But if I were to obtain it, the benefits it will give me cannot be imagined by you. I know you are rich, but isn't your strength limited? Gaining some grievances towards you, that might not be the best thing for you..."

The old man's words were unhurriedly spoken but carried a faint threat to them.

He lifted his hand once more and grimly said, "2.5 billion!"

"Is that right?" Lin Ming chuckled. "I thought that someone else would be competing with me, but I never imagined it would be someone like you. What a coincidence. The Dragon Contract will also be extremely useful in my hands. As for you... you just have a little bit of a dragon bloodline lineage, do you really think it's necessary to remain so mysterious about it?"

Lin Ming's words shocked the old man. The old man immediately felt that this youth speaking to him couldn't be understood. He had clearly restrained his dragon race aura and yet he had been seen through by Lin Ming. How was this possible?

Lin Ming smirked. "If you want to compete then let us do so fairly and openly. Threatening me? Do you think that's useful?"

"3 billion!"

Lin Ming raised the bid by another terrifying amount, but his expression still remained calm!

This sort of expression, if placed on anyone else, would have felt like an act. After all, 3 billion was an amount that even an Empyrean would have to mull over.

But for Lin Ming, this expression that didn't seem to care about money at all was actually reasonable.

Everyone had already witnessed Lin Ming's horrifying ability to gain wealth. In just half a month and with 2 promissory notes he had earned 10 billion points in wealth. Just who could compare with him?

“You...!”

The old man clenched his teeth and glared at Lin Ming with resentment. But, he remained silent.

No matter how much he desired the Dragon Contract, he could only watch helplessly on as Lin Ming carried it away. 3 billion points had indeed surpassed the limits of his wealth.

“3 billion points, is there a higher bid?”

Song Wen asked several times. When no one put forth a bid, he began counting down from three. Then, in the end, the Dragon Contract was won by Lin Ming!

Hence, to Lin Ming, the Divine Rune City Auction had been perfectly finished. He had obtained everything that he wanted.

Although 3 billion points for the Dragon Contract was bit outrageous, Lin Ming could accept this trade. To him, the Dragon Contract was worth at least 2 billion points to begin with. And now that he had also learned it contained a wisp of a dragon soul, adding in another billion wasn't too great a loss.

Chapter 1649 – The Dragon Egg’s Pulse

10 days later, in a seventh grade divine runic room at the Divine Runic Masters Guild, Lin Ming was meditating in front of a divine runic table, preparing himself to draw up the 1000 improved divine runic symbols.

In these 10 days, Lin Ming hadn’t been idling around. He had been purchasing a massive amount of items.

Besides the jade dragon horn and dragon saliva grass that he obtained through the auction, Lin Ming needed two more rare materials – a heaven devouring snake gallbladder and primal jade quintessence.

These two materials were originally within the Divine Runic Masters Guild’s warehouse, so Lin Ming spent 600 million and 800 million points on each respectively to exchange for them. As for the nine sun jades he needed to pay, Lin Ming replaced those with points.

After buying all the materials he needed, Lin Ming still had over 4 billion points remaining!

Lin Ming didn’t waste these points. He exchanged them for massive piles of other precious materials from the Divine Rune Masters Guild!

Whenever the Divine Rune City Auction came around, the Divine Runic Masters Guild’s warehouse would be at its richest state and have the most pills and treasures available. This was because innumerable influences would arrive from all over the inner Asura Road and would exchange their materials and treasures for points.

Taking advantage of this opportunity, Lin Ming was able to purchase any material that he took a liking to. He was able to contact other people to find any materials that he wanted.

Some people weren’t willing to exchange their treasures for

points yet, so in this situation Lin Ming would pay over 20% higher than the market price in points to purchase materials from them.

Lin Ming didn't mind these extra costs. Many of these materials weren't available at normal times. Once this hectic period passed, it would be some time before he encountered them again.

In seven days, Lin Ming spent most of the 4 billion some points he had. In the end, he only had several hundred million points remaining.

With these 4 billion points, Lin Ming also purchased an Asura Command that allowed him to travel through the Asura Road. With this Asura Command, whether it was leaving the Asura Road or entering the inner and outer Asura Road, it would be much easier for him.

In addition, Lin Ming also bought another material needed to refine the pill to open the third Dao Palace – a Twinlife Thunder Crystal.

Seeing Primordius Heavenly Palace packed to the brim with materials, Lin Ming was pleased with himself. These materials would last for a long time. His road of body transformation would be paved with these materials.

Of course, it was still too early for refining the Ravenous Wolf Heaven Pill required to open the second Dao Palace. Lin Ming first needed to complete the 1000 improved Heavenly Fire Symbols and Heretical God Symbols. To him, this was a chance to challenge and temper himself.

After completing this task, whether it was his comprehension of the Asura Heavenly Dao or his soul force, both would be greatly enhanced.

With that, he would be more confident in refining a Ravenous Wolf Heaven Pill.

Brilliant arcs of light flashed through the dim divine runic room.

Lin Ming's hands swam through the void, leaving behind beautiful traces of light that seemed as enchanting as flowers.

Little by little, tiny runes filled with the power of thunder and fire began to shimmer into existence...

In the divine runic room, all of Lin Ming's soul force was concentrated on drawing up this Heretical God Symbol. Around him, time seemed to lose all meaning...

Beside him, Xiao Moxian was paying attention to Lin Ming as she meditated. During these years, Xiao Moxian's cultivation had far outstripped Lin Ming's progress. As he was spending his time on the divine runic arts, her cultivation boundary was already nearing the late Divine Lord realm.

Practicing the divine runic arts would inevitably influence Lin Ming's cultivation slightly. Although the divine runic arts were greatly beneficial to Lin Ming's soul force and understandings of the Asura Laws, soul force and comprehension of Laws didn't directly increase one's cultivation.

The entire divine runic room was filled with a faint light. Traces of thunder and fire flooded the room, filling it with a mystical aesthetic sense.

The tiny runes were drawn by Lin Ming one at a time. As he drew up the 1300th tiny rune, Lin Ming didn't notice that there was something in his spatial ring that was beginning to cast a strange light.

This wisp of light carried with it a fresh and vibrant aura as it quietly mixed into Lin Ming's soul force...

As Lin Ming was about to tie together two lines of glowing energy, the brilliantly dazzling energy in his hands was actually affected by this strange strength. It caused one of the lines of energy to bounce away and melt into one of the tiny runes.

All of the tiny runes that Lin Ming drew up were infused with a

tiny wisp of the power of thunder and fire.

Underneath the influence of the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws, these two strengths were able to join together in a bizarre but marvelous balanced harmony. But with the sudden surge of this strength, this balance was immediately crushed apart.

First, it was a tiny explosion that blew up in front of Lin Ming. A wild and chaotically imbalanced energy poured out, surging into the other runes.

Soon after that, a horrifying chain reaction spread through the 1000 plus tiny runes!

Bang! Bang! Bang!

Countless small explosions occurred, finally gathering into countless threads of thunder and fire that soared to the skies. Lin Ming dodged to the side as the shockwaves swept over him. Luckily, he was able to revolve his protective true essence in time so he wasn't injured in the explosion.

Even Xiao Moxian who was idling on the side didn't have time to respond. Her cute face was soon covered with black soot.

Lin Ming froze in place, not moving for a long time.

What happened? For what reason was the energy uncontrollable just now? It was clear that he had everything under control just then.

"It seems that in the critical moment of the drawing process, a strange power inexplicably swelled forth and destroyed the balance of energy in the runes..."

Lin Ming earnestly recalled every step he took in drawing up the Heretical God Symbol. He racked his memories, trying to recall when an external strength had appeared and interfered with him.

It was at this time that he felt a seething power emit from his spatial ring.

“Yes, it was this strength!”

He quickly opened his spatial ring and a vast and desolate aura rushed out like a broken dam.

This aura was old and spiritual; it originated from that crystalline jade dragon horn.

Since Lin Ming obtained it from the auction house, there hadn't been a single movement of the jade dragon horn.

But currently, the sealing runes around the jade dragon horn were flickering, shining with a radiance like the gentle waves of the ocean.

All of this light spread to a silent corner of the spatial ring.

Lying at that location was a little ovoid-shaped object.

Seeing this little thing, Lin Ming's pupils shrank. An astonished expression raced through his features.

This pitch black object was something he obtained from Empyrean Primordius' comrade-in-arms deep within the Eternal Demon Abyss, the revered Black Dragon God Beast. It was the black dragon egg.

This black dragon egg needed a tremendous amount of strength before it was able to hatch. From time to time, Lin Ming would supply it with medicines, nine sun jades, and spiritual energy.

Unfortunately, even though this black dragon egg had absorbed a massive amount of spiritual energy, there still hadn't been the slightest response from it.

He never imagined that today the jade dragon horn would cause the black dragon egg to beat!

Chapter 1650 – Ancient Contract

Lin Ming's mind stirred. He took out the jade dragon horn and black dragon egg from his spatial ring. After he obtained the jade dragon horn he had placed it in his spatial ring where he was momentarily keeping the black dragon egg. Because they were now in the same space, there was clearly some change that occurred because of the mutual attraction of their dragon race auras.

The snow white dragon horn was the height of a person. But, when placed next to the dragon egg it seemed the size of a dish.

The pure black egg shell was covered with strange patterns that shifted between light and dark as if the egg were breathing. In the darkness, a soft luster formed from energy surrounded the dragon egg, forming a faint black halo.

And beneath the dragon egg, the snow white dragon horn was emitting a gentle white light.

The sharp contrast of black and white was like a glossy black gem placed in snow.

“Big Brother Lin, I feel that... the jade dragon horn's dragon spirit has been stirred... it's likely resonating with the little thing in the black dragon egg...”

Xiao Moxian said from behind Lin Ming. In a daze, she walked forwards and stood in front of the jade dragon horn.

Her eyes were misty as she looked at the jade dragon horn and peaceful black dragon egg. Her hands were lifted in the air, gently weaving through the glossy light emitting from the jade dragon horn, as if she were running her hands in the waters of a lake.

“It's true, it seems that the dragon spirit within the jade dragon horn is slowly gathering into the dragon egg...” Xiao Moxian dreamily whispered.

Lin Ming closed his eyes, also feeling the same thing.

The dragon spirit within the jade dragon horn was an extremely incomplete and flawed soul. It lacked nearly any sense of self. It was only because of the contract that it was controlled by the master of the Dragon Contract.

Now, although the little being in the black dragon egg wasn't able to control the Dragon Contract, it seemed as if it was relying on the unique relationship between members of the dragon race to slowly absorb the ancient dragon spirit from the Dragon Contract!

And, this ancient dragon spirit didn't seem to resist at all.

Lin Ming linked his divine sense with the Dragon Contract and seemed to sense a faintly sad and depressing atmosphere!

Lin Ming had the dragon race bloodline in his body and this allowed him to faintly communicate with the ancient dragon spirit. He could feel its hopelessness and sorrow...

Because the ancient dragon spirit was extremely incomplete, it lacked almost any sense of consciousness.

But, it still had its instinct.

Hundreds of millions of years ago, it had been caged within the jade dragon horn. Sealed by an ancient contract, it had become nothing but a contract puppet!

Time had passed, a hundred million years and then another hundreds million years, repeating again and again.

It had gone through many masters and had even gone into dormancy deep in the depths of ancient ruins. It had travelled through multiple universes and had taken countless lives. But no matter how long the lifespan of a Divine Dragon was, the end of its existence had finally neared. It had transformed into pure soul energy, but even so it was imprisoned by the contract...

It was still regarded as a puppet without a mind of its own, used as a killing tool for its ever-changing masters to fight again and again...

This type of life left the dragon spirit feeling endless sadness and despair!

And now, a familiar bloodline relation of its people was calling to it, summoning it. Without any resistance at all, the dragon spirit allowed itself to be summoned...

For this dragon spirit, rather than being imprisoned forever in this contract, forever unable to reincarnate, allowing itself to become a part of this new life was actually a kind of salvation...

Lin Ming closed his eyes for a long time. After several hours passed he finally opened them.

Amongst the God Beasts, their bloodlines were few and far between. In order to survive, it was much easier for them to trust each other than to trust a human.

Humans' fighting amongst each other was a common occurrence. In fact, within the great 33 Heavens, whether it was mortals or martial artists of any race, countless lives perished every year.

To struggle for resources, to fight because of grudges, to rob others... innumerable reasons led to the extermination of innumerable lives.

But God Beasts would not do this in most situations. This was because their numbers were far too few. If they fought amongst themselves, it was likely they would all become extinct!

At this time, more and more gentle light emitted from the jade dragon horn. In the void of the divine runic room, the light transformed into a shimmering white dragon. In the midst of this glorious light, an untold number of strange dragon-shaped marks and even life essence began flowing towards the black dragon egg.

This was the essence of the dragon spirit that had been sealed in the Dragon Contract for an unknown number of years. In a sense, it was a type of inheritance.

This was the purest form of its life essence, containing all of its

talent, supernatural powers, and so forth.

Lin Ming watched quietly. After a full day passed, the light of the dragon egg began to gradually dim down, and the pulsating lights on the dragon egg also disappeared. The strength of the dragon spirit had completely fused into the black dragon egg, seeming as if nothing had occurred.

Lin Ming silently waited as all of this happened. Even the drawing of the divine runic symbols was momentarily postponed. He was extremely patient. This black dragon egg was his contract beast and their spirits and lives were linked together. He could feel that after absorbing the dragon spirit, the black dragon egg was undergoing a tremendous series of changes!

To hatch a True Dragon, that was absolutely an unfathomably vast project!

Even under the nourishment of countless heavenly materials and limitless amounts of heaven and earth origin energy, this was still a process that required tens of thousands of years. But now, with the ancient dragon spirit fusing its essence into the black dragon egg, this greatly reduced the time it needed to incubate. At the same time, the life essence, talent, and supernatural powers that entered the dragon egg accelerated its growth. Once it hatched, it would definitely be far more powerful than Xiao Moxian's hungry Big Yellow, a Taotie God Beast!

Time slowly passed, a breath at a time. Slowly, over the surface of the black dragon egg, a dazzling and mystical line appeared.

Then another strange and shimmering line appeared.

As these radiant lines slowly appeared, the pitch black dragon egg became crystalline and translucent.

Lin Ming could even faintly hear a small whisper from within the dragon egg, as slight and imperceptible as dust falling in the wind.

After that, vaguely, the outline of a little baby dragon appeared

from within the glowing dragon egg, flitting in and out of sight, indistinct and hidden...

It was slowly absorbing the power of the dragon spirit like drinking from a trickling stream. Lin Ming could see at first glance that absorbing the ancient dragon spirit wasn't something that could be accomplished in a single day. Rather, it would take a long time as the process slowly occurred.

This was just like a small little bug eating a massive cake.

After finishing eating and then also absorbing other heavenly materials, just what boundary would this little baby black dragon reach?

The life fluctuations of the black dragon egg began to die down as it changed back to its previous appearance. The only differences were the traces of life marked on the outside of the dragon egg; they still emitted a luminescent light.

This was clearly showing the pulse of life within.

"It seems it will need a much longer time before it can hatch..." Lin Ming gazed at the black dragon egg, satisfied with what he saw. He would allow that little life to slowly digest the power of the dragon spirit.

At this time he had to do his best not to disturb the black dragon egg; he also understood the common saying that one shouldn't try to run before they could walk. This needed to be a progressive, gradual process.

Just as he put the black dragon egg and jade dragon horn in his spatial ring, there was the thumping of a knock on his door.

Who had come at this time?

Lin Ming wasn't happy to be disturbed while he was drawing up divine runic symbols. Xiao Moxian frowned and opened the door. They could see two old men with strange smiles on their faces standing at the entrance. Beside them were two young divine runic

masters; they were clearly apprentices.

“Who are you?” Xiao Moxian swept her eyes over them, her vision catching on their divine runic badges. Their divine runic badges were not in the style of Divine Rune City so they clearly weren’t divine runic masters of the Divine Runic Masters Guild.

“We felt a chaotic energy just now. It seems that...” The eyes of one of the old divine runic masters looked over Xiao Moxian and swept through the divine runic room. As he saw the messy and chaotic scene he knew that a considerably large explosion had occurred just now. Even the array discs might have been damaged.

“It seems that there was an explosion... is Sir Lin safe?” A tall and thin old man asked. Although he had a smile, one could clearly hear the anxiety and worry in his voice.

The other old man was short and fat. Although he didn’t speak, his distraught expression spoke more than enough for him.

These two people had clearly felt the strange fluctuations of energy in the air.

“You are not from the Divine Runic Masters Guild...” Xiao Moxian frowned. Just where did these two old fellows come from? Why were they here?

“I am Zhao Chang, a divine runic master from the Minor Violet Holy Lands. Before, hadn’t Sir Lin said that he would hand over the completed Heretical God Symbols every few months? Thus, Empyrean Minor Violet sent us here to be responsible for this matter and to lend any aid that we can. If there is any matter that you need help with, please feel free to look for us, we will do our best to help you in any manner we can.”

Divine runic master Zhao spoke with a close and friendly tone. As he spoke, he continued to sweep his sense across the divine runic room, trying to get a grasp of Lin Ming’s progress on the Heretical God Symbols.

Xiao Moxian was stunned for a moment before she recovered. It seemed that Empyrean Minor Violet didn't trust them too much and had sent several supervisors to keep an eye on them!

This caused Xiao Moxian to feel extremely uncomfortable. Her eyebrows twitched and she nearly slammed the door shut. But at this time, Lin Ming stopped her and smiled at the two old divine runic masters as he said, "Please rest assured, I will turn in divine runic symbols every three months, on time. As for this divine runic room, the sound insulating array formation is quite good and it's nearly impossible for the fluctuations of energy from an explosion to escape. Two sirs, perhaps you were living in the room next door?"

Lin Ming smiled, chuckling a little. He didn't mind that Empyrean Minor Violet had sent these supervisors to watch over him. To be honest, if he were in Empyrean Minor Violet's position, he would absolutely send people to keep a close eye on matters. After all, this was a total of 5 billion points added with a 2 billion point dragon saliva grass, and all of this was traded for a promissory note. How could Empyrean Minor Violet not be anxious about this?

Lin Ming's words left the two old divine runic masters blushing red with embarrassment. Indeed, they were assigned to monitor him at all hours, every day. It wasn't much different from having moved a bench right outside the door of his room.

However, they couldn't disturb Lin Ming as he was drawing up divine runic symbols so they didn't have the chance to enter his room. It was only with this explosion that they took this opportunity to see the progress of his work.

Chapter 1651 – Attention of Peers

The two old divine runic masters idled at the door for some time, clearly wanting to go in and ‘sit’. But, Lin Ming didn’t share this intention at all. After a brief conversation, he quickly came up with an excuse that he had to hurry up with the divine runic symbols and closed the door.

Looking at the closed door, the two old men glanced at each other with dismay. They were also people with status and yet they had to spend their days here guarding the door of a junior. But, there wasn’t anything they could do about it. Besides Lin Ming, who else could draw up the improved Heavenly Fire Symbol and Heretical God Symbol? Even Empyrean Minor Violet had taken an extreme liking towards Lin Ming’s divine runic symbols and would occasionally ask about them.

“The situation doesn’t seem too good...” The tall old man said, stroking his beard.

Although they didn’t enter the room they were still able to vaguely get a sense of his progress. During these past several days, Lin Ming didn’t seem to have made any headway in the production of the divine runic symbols and instead seemed to have caused some explosions in his room. That brief accident just now was not just an ordinary failure, it might have been a problem with the creation of the energy structure.

When Shadow Overflow had tried to copy Lin Ming’s divine runic symbol, it had also been a problem with the energy structure that had caused the entire divine runic symbol to collapse.

This left them both feeling worried. Was there a problem in drawing up the Heretical God Symbols? If so, would Lin Ming be able to finish the task on time?

In fact, it wasn’t just these two old fellows that were paying attention to this.

After the Divine Rune City Auction ended, many divine runic masters had yet to leave. They often visited the Divine Runic Masters Guild, hoping to observe the Heretical God Symbol and the improved Heavenly Fire Symbol.

Originally, this sort of request was a bit outrageous. After all, these two divine runic symbols involved a great deal of secrets. If the Divine Runic Masters Guild refused, they wouldn't have anything to say about the matter.

But what surprised them was that these requests were actually not refused by Song Wen.

All divine runic masters, as long as they applied, could examine the Heretical God Symbol and Heavenly Fire Symbol for three days. But in order to apply there was a condition: divine runic masters had to exchange some of their attainments. In other words, some of their skills and secret techniques in drawing up divine runic symbols.

When Song Wen put forth these request, even Old Xue had to clap his hands in praise. Old Xue couldn't help but sigh in his heart. Although this Song Wen normally seemed like some virtuous and magnanimous character, the truth was that he was a dirty bucket of water filled with tricks.

As for Old Xue himself, he was the opposite. Although he seemed crafty and greedy on the surface, when it came to his own benefits he was honest with his bottom line.

This led to Song Wen having a good reputation with everyone referring to him as a gentleman. In truth, Song Wen was only a miser that took advantages of others. As for Old Xue, he had a poor reputation. Many people called him an old dog but Old Xue had never truly taken advantage of others.

However, Old Xue knew that wanting to copy the improved Heavenly Fire Symbol and Heretical God Symbol was impossible. The past results of Shadow Overflow were the best example of this.

Even if they lent out these divine runic symbols for other divine runic masters to examine and research, they wouldn't be able to produce any results.

On the other hand, with these divine runic masters exchanging their attainments to the Divine Runic Masters Guild, the Divine Runic Masters Guild would have tremendous benefits!

After all, every divine runic master would have different discoveries and experiences when drawing up a divine runic symbol. For instance, if 100 divine runic masters were to draw up a Heavenly Fire Symbol there would be 100 different techniques. Even though the main runic structure was the same, the subtle differences between them were infinitely varied!

Absorbing the experience of a single divine runic master wasn't much at all, but if one could absorb the experiences of many divine runic masters, that was a highly valuable asset!

The truth was that most of these divine runic masters were well aware that it was impossible for them to unravel the Heretical God Symbol and the improved Heavenly Fire Symbol.

Even though they had no hope of unraveling it, they still wanted to experience it and study it themselves.

These two divine runic symbols had a soaring fame in the outer world. Even though many divine runic masters knew this was a trap, they still willingly leapt into it!

This was the craziness caused by one's curiosity and enthusiasm towards the divine runic arts!

For many divine runic masters, even just looking at the Heretical God Symbol had them feeling satisfied.

More and more divine runic masters came and exchanged their attainments for the chance to look over the Heretical God Symbol and improved Heavenly Fire Symbol.

However, as more and more people studied these two divine

runic symbols and even conducted research on them, they came to a horrifying conclusion.

That was that the degree of difficulty in drawing up these two divine runic symbols had reached a terrifying level!

Just looking at the tiny runes that comprised the structure of the divine runic symbol, there were 2000-3000 of them.

They feared that even if they knew all the techniques needed to draw these two divine runic symbols and also knew how to fuse together the Asura Heavenly Dao, if they wanted to draw these divine runic symbols themselves, the difficulty would likely be several times greater than that of an ordinary sixth grade divine runic symbol!

It was hard to imagine just how Lin Ming had completed one!

As they all remembered that Lin Ming said he would complete 500 Heretical God Symbols within three years, all of them felt that this was unbelievable. This was simply a mind-boggling workload!

If Lin Ming couldn't complete the 500 Heavenly Fire Symbols within three years, then Empyrean Lionheart wouldn't say anything. After all, at the time, Empyrean Lionheart hadn't placed a condition on Lin Ming to complete the 500 improved Heavenly Fire Symbols within three years.

But Empyrean Minor Violet was different. If Lin Ming wasn't able to fulfill the promissory note on time, then the points he obtained would be taken back!

For a time, many divine runic masters focused their attention on the Divine Runic Masters Guild. These miraculous divine runic symbols left their hearts itching with desire and not wanting to leave.

Much less, Divine Rune City was considered a holy land of divine runic masters. With so many divine runic masters gathered here they could share and exchange their knowledge. To these long-

lived people, three years wasn't anything at all. They would rather stay here and see if Lin Ming could finish this intimidating task.

But Lin Ming secluded himself in his divine runic room, not allowing anyone to enter.

During these days, there were no more movements of the black dragon egg. Lin Ming invested all of his focus into drawing up the divine runic symbols. His hands cut through the void, leaving behind lines of glowing energy...

Time passed like sand in the wind, unknowingly marching by.

At the start, Lin Ming didn't have any problems drawing up the Heavenly Fire Symbol. But concerning the Heretical God Symbol, the process was still as slow as before.

One after another, several small incidents occurred. Luckily, after Xiao Moxian was left covered in soot due to the black dragon egg incident, she had kept her guard up so all troubles were quickly resolved.

After that, Lin Ming became increasingly skilled in his drawing process.

One month....

Two months...

Three months...

The discarded materials piled up as high as hills. But during this process, Lin Ming became increasingly skilled and familiar with drawing up the improved Heavenly Fire Symbol and Heretical God Symbol. He accurately captured all of the small changes in the energy patterns between the lines.

Slowly, Lin Ming finally became able to draw up two complete Heavenly Fire Symbols in one day. His success rate in a situation where he was conserving his soul force had reached 99%!

As for the more difficult Heretical God Symbol, Lin Ming's

success rate was only 80 some percent. Moreover, he could draw at most one a day.

This led Lin Ming to make a decision. He would spend the majority of his energy drawing up the improved Heavenly Fire Symbols and through this process constantly enhance the level of his divine runic arts.

As for the Heretical God Symbol, he would leave that on the backburner until his skill in the divine runic arts reached a certain level. Once he could guarantee a 95% success rate, he would then start drawing them up en masse.

Doing this would save the most time.

And at this moment, the divine runic masters from Minor Violet Heavenly Palace that were keeping guard outside of Lin Ming's divine runic room felt a bit restless.

During this long period of time, Lin Ming hadn't come out to hand over any divine runic symbols.

This left them feeling weak at heart.

Finally, Zhao Chang couldn't help but knock on Lin Ming's door.

Xiao Moxian frowned. First she confirmed that Lin Ming hadn't been disturbed, then she laid down an isolating array formation before she opened the front door with a dark and gloomy face.

Facing Xiao Moxian's eerie face that was illuminated by the dim light and the murderous gaze in her eyes, Zhao Chang stiffened and awkwardly coughed several times. He slowly explained, "Fairy Maiden Xiao Moxian, we are here to receive the divine runic symbols. At the time, Sir Lin said to Empyrean Minor Violet at the auction that he would deliver what he had completed every three months."

Zhao Chang spoke with an upbeat and warm tone, as if he were trying to flatter Xiao Moxian.

Upon hearing this, Xiao Moxian remembered that Lin Ming had indeed said this.

Pulling her ear for a moment, Xiao Moxian walked back inside and took out the completed Heretical God Symbols from a jade box on the divine runic table. Then, she handed them over to Zhao Chang.

The stack was thin and light. After a quick count, there were only 10...

This was because in order to save time Lin Ming decided to take things one step at a time. In a high intensity drawing process, he would first start with the improved Heavenly Fire Symbols to hone his craft further.

As Zhao Chang looked at the mere 10 Heretical God Symbols in his hands, he nearly choked on himself and fainted.

“This... is it?”

During these three months, Lin Ming had only drawn 10! Wasn't this far too slow!?

The promised deadline was three years. At this speed, in three years Lin Ming would only be able to draw 120. This was far away from the goal of 500!

“That's right, this is it. At the time I remember it was said that only completed divine runic symbols would be handed over, but it was never stated how many needed to be handed over per month, right?”

Xiao Moxian rhetorically asked. Zhao Chang was speechless. Indeed, at the auction, Lin Ming only said he would turn in what he had completed every three months, but it was never stated how many would be turned in.

The short and fat old man beside Zhao Chang couldn't help but remind Xiao Moxian, “Fairy Maiden Xiao Moxian, please remember that the agreement was that if the promissory note

couldn't be fulfilled in three years, then the 5 billion points and dragon saliva grass must be returned.”

The short and fat old man kindly reminded as he felt that it would be difficult for Lin Ming to complete this task. After all, he too had studied the Heretical God Symbol created by Lin Ming and felt that even with his own ability, if Lin Ming were to teach him by hand how to draw up a Heretical God Symbol it would still not be easy at all. There would definitely be a high failure rate.

To complete 500 in three years was a bit too imposing of a condition. After all, in his eyes, Lin Ming was still a youth, not much different from a little child.

Although these two old men had a good character and spoke from the kindness of their heart, Xiao Moxian still didn't appreciate these two old fellows squatting in front of the door every day. She impatiently said, “Thank you for the advice, but please do not worry yourselves. It has only been three months, moreover, Big Brother Lin has more to draw up than the Heretical God Symbols; he still has to draw up the improved Heavenly Fire Symbols!”

“Improved Heavenly Fire Symbols?” Zhao Chang repeated, startled. There was trouble in completing the Heretical God Symbols and yet Lin Ming was still drawing up the improved Heavenly Fire Symbols? He felt that Xiao Moxian had the heart and manner of a child and liked to mindlessly boast. But, he had the good manners and heart not to break apart her little act. He once again kindly reminded her, “The Heavenly Fire Symbols don't seem to have a deadline. Perhaps it might be better to focus on the Heretical God Symbols alone for these three years.”

“...Sure.” Xiao Moxian simply didn't have the interest or patience to keep on bantering with these two old men. She mumbled a response and then slammed the door shut.

The two old men jumped back as their faces were almost struck by the stone door. They couldn't help but glance at each other in

dismay.

Chapter 1652 – Task Complete

“This... why is that little girl so angry?”

The two old men were somewhat depressed. It was rare for a junior to treat them like this. After such a cold reception they were really at a loss for words.

“She is complaining that we are staying out here and disturbing her.” The other old man bitterly smiled.

To squat outside one’s door every day, it wasn’t strange to arouse someone’s disgust and annoyance. If it weren’t for this being Empyrean Minor Violet’s personal command, they wouldn’t be willing to squat at the door like some beggars.

“Lin Ming seems to have pushed himself too far. I have no idea if it’s really like that little girl said and he’s investing a massive amount of energy in the improved Heavenly Fire Symbols. At the time, Empyrean Lionheart hadn’t stipulated any deadline so as long as Lin Ming isn’t foolish he shouldn’t take on too great a burden.”

“Lin Ming’s not an idiot. Empyrean Lionheart isn’t facing a war anytime soon so he has no urgent need for the divine runic symbols. To him, it shouldn’t matter if it’s three years or five years. My gut feeling tells me that there was a problem in the drawing process. That Heretical God Symbol alone has 3000 some tiny runes, enough to even cause a sixth grade divine runic master to feel fear at heart, so how could it be easy to draw up? Perhaps the previous explosion was because there was a problem with the runic structure. We can only hope that Lin Ming managed to solve the problem...”

As these two old men continued deliberating, they passed these mere 10 divine runic symbols to a messenger from the Minor Violet Holy Lands who passed through numerous channels to deliver them to Empyrean Minor Violet.

In three months, Empyrean Minor Violet had only received 10 divine runic symbols. This small amount caused her to slightly frown. However, it was only slightly frowning. She didn't say much, only commanding that all the divine runic symbols be delivered to her every three months.

Lin Ming delivering 10 Heretical God Symbols in three months wasn't a secret at all. In addition, with the numerous people who were paying attention to Lin Ming, this news soon spread.

If he spent three months to complete 10 divine runic symbols, how could he possibly complete 500 in three years?

These people couldn't help but gossip quietly amongst themselves. Although Lin Min Ming was young, no one dared to underestimate him. At the Divine Rune City Auction he had obtained 10 billion points in just half a month. Whether it was in terms of will or mentality, he was absolutely top notch!

Since he had dared to make a promise that he would be able to fulfill the promissory note of 500 Heretical God Symbols in three years, he had to have some assurance in doing so. After all, if his confident promise at the time was just an act, the future price he would have to pay would be dreadful.

Thus, everyone felt that Lin Ming's slow speed in drawing up Heretical God Symbols was likely because some accident had occurred.

If he could solve this problem then he might be able to increase his speed. But if he didn't manage to do so then he would truly lose everything!

This news left many divine runic masters that were on good terms with Lin Ming worried for him. For instance, Old Xue and Old Su were both fretting over his problems.

But there were also many others taking this chance to gloat. They wanted Lin Ming to fail. The materials had been paid for using Lin

Ming's money, and if he were forced to pay back the 5 billion points and dragon saliva grass he earned, that would truly be tragic.

Old Su and Old Xue discussed the situation with each other. They figured that Lin Ming should have encountered some problem in the first three months that he wasn't able to solve for the time being. After the first three months, his speed should have increased some more.

But, they never imagined that after six months of time, Lin Ming would only hand over three more Heretical God Symbols!

This left many people speechless. How come he would turn in less each time!?

Good heavens! Old Xue and Old Su were no longer able to sit still. This was not just Lin Ming's problem but something that involved the honor and reputation of the Divine Runic Masters Guild. The three kinds of divine runic symbols that Lin Ming invented were his brand and also the brand of the Divine Runic Masters Guild.

Slowly, the divine runic masters that had gathered at the Divine Runic Masters Guild from all over the Asura Road felt the situation becoming more interesting.

This youth had spent half a month to gather 10 billion points and had made a great show of things. If he wasn't able to fulfill his promises and lost everything, then the miracle of that time would turn into nothing but a joke.

After nine months, Lin Ming only delivered slightly more Heretical God Symbols – five of them!

When placed against the total requirement of 500, this was nothing but a drop of water in a bucket.

Time passed a day at a time. Lin Ming was deep in seclusion and didn't leave. The divine runic symbols he completed were handed over to Xiao Moxian for processing. Lin Ming focused all of his

heart and mind on drawing up the divine runic symbols and declined all disturbances.

No one knew that at this time, Lin Ming had already been able to draw up three improved Heavenly Fire Symbols in one day and his success rate had risen to 100%!

With his current soul force and control of the Asura Laws, Lin Ming believed that if he were to stop drawing up the Heavenly Fire Symbols now and immediately start on the Heretical God Symbols, his success rate would be above 95%.

During these nine months, Lin Ming had already completed 390 improved Heavenly Fire Symbols and had just a bit more than 100 left to do. He could complete that in a little more than a month.

Then, ten months passed.

Halfway through the 11th month, Lin Ming completed all improved Heavenly Fire Symbols. All 500 Heavenly Fire Symbols had been perfectly drawn up!

Following that, Lin Ming's divine runic arts had risen to another level. With this experience at his back, he started his work on the Heretical God Symbols.

With the warm up of the Heavenly Fire Symbols, it had become far easier for Lin Ming to draw up the Heretical God Symbols.

From one a day at the start, after becoming more familiar with the process, he began to draw up three every two days.

In over 40 days, Lin Ming drew up more than 50 Heretical God Symbols.

With this, the 12th month had passed. An entire year had quietly slipped by.

The end of the 12th month also signaled the receiving of the completed divine runic symbols.

As many people thought that Lin Ming would complete Heretical

God Symbols in the single digits, when Xiao Moxian took out the jade box and opened it, she actually revealed a thick stack of Heretical God Symbols within.

Zhao Chang was stunned as he saw this.

He quickly counted the Heretical God Symbols and noticed there were 52 of them. With a brief probing of his soul force, he could see that all of these were completed Heretical God Symbols!

How come Lin Ming had handed over three and five divine runic symbols, but now there were suddenly 52 divine runic symbols? Did Lin Ming finally manage to draw around one every two days?

As this news spread throughout the Divine Runic Masters Guild, Old Su and Old Xue were overjoyed. There was finally some good news about Lin Ming!

However, a speed of drawing up one every two days still wasn't enough to complete 500 of them in the time left. They could only hope that Lin Ming would increase his speed yet again in the next two years. Only like this would he have hopes of completing the 500.

Old Xue held onto this hope. But, he never imagined that after another three months, Lin Ming would give them all another heaven-shaking surprise!

It had to be known that when Lin Ming drew up the 52 divine runic symbols, he had only used a month and a half to do so. The first half of the three months had been spent on drawing up improved Heavenly Fire Symbols.

However, during the next three months, Lin Ming was spending the entire timespan to do so. He invested all of his concentration in it, only thinking of drawing up Heretical God Symbols.

Thus, during these three months, Lin Ming drew up a total of 135 Heretical God Symbols! He had drawn up two divine runic symbols every three days, no more, no less.

When Xiao Moxian handed over these divine runic symbols, Zhao Chang was left dumbfounded for a long time.

“How come there are so many?”

To hand over 135 all of a sudden, this was over twice the total amount of all the Heretical God Symbols he had handed in before!

“Is it not good to turn in too many?” Xiao Moxian asked. She urged Zhao Chang to hurry up and inspect the goods.

Zhao Chang shook his head and regained his composure. He swept his sense through the Heretical God Symbols and saw that there was no problem with any of them.

How had Lin Ming drawn all of these?

As Zhao Chang was lost in thought, he dazedly passed the 135 Heretical God Symbols to headquarters. As this news spread, Old Su and Old Xue were ecstatic.

As for many other divine runic masters, they were left perplexed.

Lin Ming had handed over Heretical God Symbols a total of five times.

The first time he turned in 10, the second time three, the third time five, and the fourth time was the most normal at 52.

But the fifth time, he actually handed in a ridiculous number of 135.

Could Lin Ming have been deliberately holding back some divine runic symbols the first year? And then for some reason he decided to hand them over now?

Many people had this thought. This was also the most reasonable explanation.

Otherwise, to complete 135 Heretical God Symbols in three months, that was simply unbelievable.

Up until now, Lin Ming had completed 205 Heretical God

Symbols in 15 months. If this number was averaged out, that would be around 13-14 completed every month. This was a perfectly acceptable number.

Even so, at this speed, it would still be extremely tight if Lin Ming wanted to complete 500 divine runic symbols in three years. It felt as if he were gasping for time.

Whether or not he could complete the task would depend on how many divine runic symbols Lin Ming would turn in the next time.

Time quickly passed. Soon, six months passed during the second year.

It was time again for the delivery of divine runic symbols.

And this time, when Xiao Moxian took out the divine runic symbols, Zhao Chang's chin nearly hit the ground.

She took out 145 at once!

With this, Lin Ming had now delivered 350 Heretical God Symbols. He was only 150 away from 500!

Everyone didn't even have the time to digest this news or to figure out how Lin Ming had managed to draw up 145 Heretical God Symbols in three months. And following this, after the ninth month of the second year passed, Lin Ming directly left seclusion and handed over the remaining 150 divine runic symbols!

With this, Lin Ming completely fulfilled his promissory note to Empyrean Minor Violet!

As Lin Ming stepped out of his room, his appearance was a bit haggard and exhausted. As Zhao Chang and the other old man saw him, they were both left panic-stricken.

In their eyes, this young man in front of them was no different from a monstrous freak.

The original deadline was three years, but Lin Ming had used a year and nine months to complete it.

As for the difficulty of the Heretical God Symbol, the two old fellows had a deep understanding of it. There were over 3000 tiny runes and innumerable connections and combinations between them; just looking at the possibilities gave one a headache. Even for a sixth grade divine runic master, their soul force might not be enough to complete the task. Moreover, the more and more soul force he used up, the higher the chances of failure became!

How had Lin Ming accomplished all of this?

As this news spread out, the divine runic masters in Divine Rune City were all left startled. In particular, those hoping for Lin Ming to fail and lose all the money he had used to purchase materials were left absolutely flummoxed.

However, they still had a great question in their minds. Lin Ming was clearly able to complete 500 Heretical God Symbols in a year and nine months, so in the first nine months, why had he only turned in such a small number of divine runic symbols every time?

Chapter 1653 – Celebration Banquet

This time, Lin Ming hadn't handed over many Heretical God Symbols at the start, instead handing them all in near the end. This was a slap in the face for the divine runic masters who had doubted him.

In the early part of the first year when Lin Ming had only handed in divine runic symbols in the single digits, many divine runic masters gossiped and said that Lin Ming would definitely be unable to complete the task. There were even some people who said that if Lin Ming could finish his task, they would eat their own divine runic tables like steamed buns.

But in the end, Lin Ming had taken a year and nine months to complete the task. Without a doubt, this left all of his detractors' faces swollen red from shame.

In their deep mortification they began to curse Lin Ming and say that he was putting on an act. If he could clearly complete them early, why would he wait until the final several months to turn them in? If this wasn't putting on a show, what was?

But, although these divine runic masters cursed Lin Ming in their heart, they still understood that Lin Ming's ability to draw up divine runic symbols far surpassed their imaginations!

Towards someone this young but with such an absurdly high level of talent in the divine runic arts, those people that openly gossiped about him decided to take a new approach to the current situation; they decided to scurry away. If they had offended someone like this wouldn't it be better to just hide?

As these people were mulling over leaving Divine Rune City, the Divine Runic Masters Guild was holding a massive celebration banquet. One reason was to celebrate Lin Ming's completion of his task and another reason was to propagandize the successes of the Divine Runic Masters Guild so that more divine runic masters

would join them, causing Divine Rune City to grow even stronger.

Lin Ming originally had no interest in attending this celebration banquet, but after Song Wen repeatedly requested his presence and said that it was for the future of the Divine Runic Masters Guild, Lin Ming decided to take up the offer. He allowed them to do as they wished.

Before the celebration banquet began, all sorts of celebrities in the world of divine runic masters began to converge. All of them wanted to experience the magnificent style and elegance of this new legendary divine runic master.

Someone like Lin Ming who had a limitless future in front of them was simply a spirit treasure in human form. There were countless influences that wanted to win him over but he had declined all guests during his seclusion. Since these influences didn't have the opportunity to meet him before, they certainly wouldn't miss the chance at this celebration banquet.

For a time, all sorts of people surrounded Lin Ming. These celebrities of the inner Asura Road greeted him, wanting to get on good terms with him.

This was a scene that Suyu definitely wouldn't miss out on. However, she wasn't the only bright spot on the field. Even though she put on her eternally sexy and captivating clothes, she still couldn't cover up the light of the other girls.

In the center of the field there was no shortage of proud beauties from many different great influences. These women all came in their own styles. Some were cute and lovable, some were pure and ethereal, some were exploding from their clothes, and no matter which beautiful young woman it was, Suyu didn't necessarily surpass them.

And after Lin Ming arrived, he became the focus of all these young ladies' wiles.

“Grandmaster Lin Ming, you are far too fierce. I’ve been studying the divine runic arts for more than 10 years but I’m still only just a little first grade divine runic master. But Grandmaster Lin Ming doesn’t seem much older than me yet your divine runic arts are skilled enough to transform classic versions of divine runic symbols. You can establish your own sect and begin your own inheritance! When my grandpa returned from Divine Rune City, he had nothing but endless praise for Grandmaster Lin Ming!”

A young girl with snow-white skin and shimmering bright eyes breathily said. Her long dark hair fell down her shoulders like an inky waterfall and as she spoke to Lin Ming her vision was filled with an alluring charm. As she lifted a glass of wine in her hands, her pale white hands contrasted with the deep red wine, seeming especially beautiful.

The grandpa that she was mentioning was an Empyrean supreme elder.

Of course, an Empyrean’s granddaughter wasn’t anything too great. After all, a general Empyrean had far too many granddaughters. All descendants of Empyreans had to rely on their own abilities and it was quite good for her to become a first grade divine runic master in 10 years.

But to suddenly be referred to as ‘Grandmaster Lin Ming’, Lin Ming had a strange expression come over his face. To think that he had inexplicably become a grandmaster... it was quite bewildering. “I am not a grandmaster; just refer to me by my name...”

“In my eyes you are a grandmaster... I wonder, if you have any free time, perhaps you could... direct... my divine runic arts...?”

The young girl said, her face blushing red. Just as she was about to speak again, an old man with silver hair approached Lin Ming. This old man wore purple robes and his white hair was frizzy like needles that stuck up from his head. His aura was restrained and his eyes were sharp. Lin Ming could see that he was a master at

first glance.

“Half-step Empyrean?”

Lin Ming was surprised as he rapidly made this judgment. A half-step Empyrean, no matter where they were, was considered a formidable existence. Even in Divine Rune City where masters were like clouds, there weren't many half-step Empyreans.

“Little friend Lin, haha... I have already been hearing your famous name for quite some time. Since we can meet like this today, allow me to introduce myself. I am the Vice Palace Master of Lionheart Heavenly Palace. The reason I came this time is on behalf of Empyrean Lionheart...”

The Vice Palace Master of an Empyrean influence?

Lin Ming was startled. This sort of status was quite exaggerated. Compared to the Vice President of the Divine Runic Masters Guild, it was only slightly worse.

As the old man introduced himself he quickly caught the attention of many people. He smiled and said, “Little friend Lin, allow an old man to raise a cup to you. Before this I was worried that the Palace Master's 500 improved Heavenly Fire Symbols wouldn't be able to be fulfilled anytime soon, but now it seems I was overthinking matters. Really, even 500 Heretical God Symbols were completed by little friend Lin in just a year and nine months. Then, drawing up the Heavenly Fire Symbols shouldn't be a problem at all, hahaha!”

The old man heartily smiled, raising his wine glass to Lin Ming.

As for Lin Ming, after a brief moment of surprise he suddenly said, “If the Lionheart Holy Lands want the 500 improved Heavenly Fire Symbols, I have already finished drawing them. If Senior wishes then I can fulfill the promissory note now.”

Lin Ming's voice wasn't loud, but most of the martial artists in attendance were already paying attention to him and the silver-

haired old man. They were able to clearly hear what they were saying.

For a time, the loud and bustling party calmed down...

Everyone looked at Lin Ming, stunned, not sure whether or not they could believe their own ears.

The silver-haired man was bewildered. The wine glass in his hand also froze in mid air. "You... you finished? 500 Heavenly Fire Symbols... you've finished drawing them?"

The silver-haired old man's throat twitched. He found it difficult to speak.

This old man's response confused Lin Ming. Was this so strange?

He had originally promised a three year deadline and that was to complete both the Heavenly Fire Symbols and Heretical God Symbols. If he hadn't finished them then why would he leave seclusion?

Of course, his results were better than what he had imagined. In less than two years he had completed the 1000 divine runic symbols. Lin Ming was highly satisfied with his own speed.

He lightly clinked his wine glass with the silver-haired old man's and said with a matter-of-course tone, "I've naturally finished drawing them otherwise I wouldn't have left seclusion. If I were to fall behind in drawing up the expensive divine runic symbols that a Holy Land purchased, I would simply have to work overtime, so how would I have the time to drink wine at this banquet?"

Lin Ming thought that his own actions were quite normal. But, everyone present was left dumbfounded. It took them some time to regain their composure.

Not too far away from Lin Ming, Old Xue was enjoying his 100,000 year spirit rhino wine, drinking down cup after cup. But as he heard Lin Ming's words, he nearly spat out all the wine in his mouth. In less than two years, Lin Ming had completed 500

Heretical God Symbols as well as casually completing the 500 improved Heavenly Fire Symbols!

When one considered the difficulty and time required to draw up these two divine runic symbols, this was simply... unbelievable!

“You...” The silver-haired old man licked his dry lips. “Little friend Lin, since when did you complete the 500 Heavenly Fire Symbols that my Holy Lands purchased?”

He asked this question because he had some slight suspicions that Lin Ming might have completed a portion of the Heavenly Fire symbols before the auction had begun.

However, Lin Ming refuted this. He shook his head and said, “It was last year. I first drew up the Heavenly Fire Symbols and after I completed them I began to draw up the Heretical God Symbols. After all, the Heretical God Symbol is a bit more difficult to draw up so it would be easier with the experience of drawing up 500 Heavenly Fire Symbols before that. Fortunately, my success rate increased afterwards. Starting with something simple and then progressively going harder will naturally save more time.

“If the Lionheart Holy Lands had requested that I hand over the completed Heavenly Fire Symbols every three months then I would have handed them in then and there wouldn’t have been a need to wait until now.”

As Lin Ming spoke, everyone suddenly recalled what happened last year. During the first year, Lin Ming had only completed an extraordinarily small number of Heretical God Symbols, sometimes even handing in single digits of completed ones.

But in the second year, Lin Ming’s speed of drawing up Heretical God Symbols rapidly increased!

One time, he even handed in 150 of them!

Originally, many people thought that Lin Ming had finished most of the Heretical God Symbols last year and only turned in the

majority of them near the end. They assumed that Lin Ming was putting on some sort of show.

But, they never imagined that Lin Ming simply hadn't been drawing up Heretical God Symbols at all, but had been focusing on drawing up Heavenly Fire Symbols!

As others were worrying over whether or not Lin Ming would be able to complete his task, he hadn't been worrying over this matter at all. Everyone's concern during the first year had simply been unnecessary!

Rather, it could be said that when Lin Ming agreed to a three year deadline, he had factored additional time into the deadline. In fact, he had been referring to drawing up both divine runic symbols within the deadline!

Lin Ming had put extra cushion room in his deadline in order to guarantee an escape route for himself.

Many people froze as they realized all of this. For a time, none of them knew what expression to make. They felt that in front of Lin Ming, their thousands or tens of thousands of years of life had all been a waste!

"I see... so little friend Lin only needed less than a year to draw up the Heretical God Symbols..."

The silver-haired old man mumbled, his mind in jumbles. During the last three months Lin Ming had delivered a total of 150 Heretical God Symbols, all of them complete. He had used the whole three months to do this. In other words, he had been drawing up five divine runic symbols every three days!

This degree of speed left many sixth grade divine runic masters red with shame.

"Little friend Lin, do you have those completed Heavenly Fire Symbols with you?" The silver-haired old man was particularly respectful with his tone. Lin Ming nodded and took out a jade box

from his spatial ring. As he opened the jade box, a black-red flame slowly fluttered out, as if the jade box contained a mass of burning black flames.

An incomparably pure energy surged out. Upon feeling this pure strength, even the silver-haired old man who didn't understand the divine runic arts too well knew that these Heavenly Fire Symbols were all top quality!

Seeing was believing. Even though everyone knew that Lin Ming wouldn't lie in this situation, as the 500 Heavenly Fire Symbols appeared before them, this still left a considerable impact on their minds.

Chapter 1654 – Soul Recovery Pill

When Lin Ming took out the improved Heavenly Fire Symbols in front of all the heroic elites at the celebration banquet, this caused them all to reevaluate him with a different light in their eyes. Just when they thought Lin Ming was already strong, he always managed to show that he was even stronger than they imagined, leaving them all speechless.

This celebration banquet continued deep into the night before it ended.

With this, Lin Ming fulfilled his promissory notes of 1000 divine runic symbols. As soon as the banquet ended, this news had already spread out wide into the city. As the many circles of divine runic masters learned of this, it was like a large boulder crashing into the world of divine runic arts, sending shockwaves rippling outwards.

Of course, Lin Ming didn't bother with this. As soon as he returned from the banquet he locked himself back into his divine runic room.

He had many other tasks to complete.

Now that he had fulfilled the orders of improved Heavenly Fire Symbols and Heretical God Symbols, he could begin to handle his own business.

The first matter was to refine a Soul Recovery Pill.

This pill was to be made for Empyrean Divine Mist, whose soul force was failing.

If he were the Lin Ming of the past then he might not have had the confidence to create the Soul Recovery Pill.

But for the last two years he had been constantly drawing up improved Heavenly Fire Symbols and Heretical God Symbols day and night. His skill in balancing intricate energy patterns as well as

understanding the various changes in the Asura Laws had reached a new level.

Now, he was confident he had at least a 70% chance to successfully create the Soul Recovery Pill.

Creating a Soul Recovery Pill consumed a massive amount of soul force. Moreover, there was an extremely strict environmental demand; the slightest fluctuation of outside energy could be catastrophic.

After clearing up all of the waste materials in the divine runic room and cleaning it until it was shining, Lin Ming arranged a simple soul gathering array.

Sitting in the center of this soul gathering array, Lin Ming began this massive project.

He estimated he would need at least 10 days to refine this nearly transcendent divine pill into one that could have a significant effect on a spiritus Empyrean.

Windbreak stone, resurrection grass, god crow gallbladder...

All sorts of materials were spread in front of him.

Lin Ming opened the Heretical God Force. His right hand whistled as a wisp of heavenly tribulation fire burst to life.

At the same time, Lin Ming stretched out his left hand. He revolved the bloodline in his body and a tiny wisp of life essence left in his body from Xiao Moxian burst out, forming a black nirvanic flame that rose from his left palm!

In essence, nirvana was a heavenly tribulation that a phoenix had to undergo. If they failed in their nirvana, even a phoenix would perish.

These two different flames shared a similar origin. They were both flames that were condensed from the Heavenly Dao Laws and their grades were almost the same.

The jet black flames twisted together with the blazing red flames, slowly spinning as they evolved into a strange array diagram in the array. The phantom of the Heretical God Tree appeared behind Lin Ming, and perched on this Heretical God Tree was a dark phoenix!

In these scorching flames, Lin Ming revolved his comprehensions of alchemy to the limit. All sorts of materials were fed to the flames where they dissolved into liquids.

From the start, Lin Ming didn't take this process lightly nor did he dare to slack off. The soul force within his body gushed out like a wave, rushing into the furnace in front of him.

Runes appeared in his hand, shining with a black light. Then, they fused into the furnace...

Lin Ming kept absolute focus for five days and five nights. Because of the sweat that poured from his body being evaporated, a thin layer of salt appeared over his skin like frost.

He maintained a high intensity consumption of soul force until even he approached his limits. But at this time, the nirvanic flames and heavenly tribulation flames in his hands suddenly extinguished themselves. From the furnace, a mystic pill appeared, filled with a bewildering power.

This pill was jet black. All rays of light that neared this pill were dragged into it and cleanly absorbed.

This was a semi-complete Soul Recovery Pill.

With Lin Ming's current ability, he still lacked the skills to complete the Soul Recovery Pill in one session.

Following this, Lin Ming rested for two days. Then, he used three days to produce the best medicinal divine runic symbol that he could and placed it atop the Soul Recovery Pill.

After finishing all of this, Lin Ming slumped back onto a stone chair, utterly exhausted.

After a full ten days, this Soul Recovery Pill could be considered more or less complete.

The pitch black Soul Recovery Pill was placed in a jade box. Its surface was smoother than jade, and as one looked into its shiny depths, it made one feel as if their soul was falling into it.

This was a pill with the demonic charm of a soul. If a person with an unsteady will and mind were to look at it, they could even fall into illusion.

But even so, Lin Ming wasn't satisfied with this pill's effects. There were many places that had yet to achieve perfection, but this was also the best he could do within the constraints of his abilities. After all, it wasn't easy to produce a pill that an Empyrean could use.

However, Lin Ming couldn't wait. He had already been gone from Tragic Death Valley for nearly 30 years. According to the 10:1 time flow that occurred within Tragic Death Valley, nearly 300 years had passed there. Empyrean Divine Mist must have inevitably weakened during this time.

In a sense, it was fortunate that Empyrean Divine Mist had weakened this much because in his state even an imperfect Soul Recovery Pill would have a wondrous effect on him.

Lin Ming didn't leave his room yet. Instead, he stayed in the divine runic room for another one to two months, producing another 50 Heavenly Fire Symbols and 50 Heretical God Symbols. He took these divine runic symbols and went looking for Suyu.

Suyu could be considered as having helped him. Moreover, Lin Ming had promised that he would help Suyu. Lin Ming wasn't someone that liked owing anyone favors. Once he left the Divine Runic Masters Guild there were many other matters he would have to complete. Not only did he have to return to Tragic Death Valley but he had to find a place to refine the Ravenous Wolf Heaven Pill and break through the second Dao Palace in the Nine Stars of the

Dao Palace. After all of that was completed, there was still the final trial.

But before doing all of this, Lin Ming wished to take care of unfinished business.

Lin Ming and Xiao Moxian found Suyu and handed the divine runic symbols to her. Suyu was astonished, but she also had a faint feeling in her heart. “Sir Lin, are you planning on going on a long adventure?”

“Mm...”

Lin Ming nodded, not hiding anything from Suyu.

Suyu sighed. “You are a dragon amongst humans. The Divine Runic Masters Guild isn’t a place that can hold someone like you for long. But as for me, I must stay here. This war... if the Extreme Star Holy Lands win, then I will still stay at the Extreme Star Holy Lands until my old age... in the future, the most I’ll be able to become is the Internal Affairs Envoy. And if we lose, then there is nothing to say. But no matter what happens and where our fates bring us... I’m afraid that our roads won’t cross much...”

Suyu didn’t know why she had such a feeling. But, this feeling was quite accurate.

Lin Ming remained silent. Suyu was right. The most he would stay in the Asura Road was another 20 or so years. 20 years from now, after the final trial was complete, he would leave the Asura Road and return to the Divine Realm.

The Divine Realm was Lin Ming’s homeland.

Lin Ming was well aware that the great calamity of humanity was bound to be tragic and fierce. Even if he was nothing but a little tree in this great calamity, unable to do anything at all, Lin Ming still had to return.

Because the human race was Lin Ming’s roots.

“Mm... I understand. Please, take care...” Suya took a deep breath and in this moment she seemed far thinner and paler. In truth, she and Lin Ming only had a cooperative relationship. At best, they could be considered casual friends. With such a light and pale relationship, she didn’t have any qualifications to speak out words to ask him to stay. But as she thought about parting here, and perhaps to never meet again, Suya couldn’t help but feel an inexplicable loss in her heart.

She wanted to say something but she eventually only looked at Xiao Moxian with envy in her eyes.

Xiao Moxian paused. She suddenly felt that Suya, this Suya that she had loathed in the past, suddenly wasn’t so annoying. She bit her lips and hesitantly said, “Miss Suya, is there anything you wish to say that isn’t convenient? Perhaps it would be better if I left first?”

Seeing Xiao Moxian’s response, Suya was stunned. Then, she chuckled, her smile bright and friendly. “It’s nothing special. I wish that you and Lin Ming can grow old together until your hair turns white, I wish that you two remain safe and happy, and I wish that your home will be filled with children and grandchildren, all of them dragons and phoenixes...”

Suya had finally said a blessing mostly used by mortals. As for the world of martial artists, although there were blessings and praises, they rarely ever mentioned growing old or having many descendants. This was because martial artists lived long lives and to them descendants were not an extension of their lives. There was also no need to bring honor to their ancestors. When blessings were given, it was usually to wish for others to have breakthroughs in their boundaries and for their strength to increase.

As Suya suddenly spoke out this strange mortal blessing, Xiao Moxian blushed red. She didn’t know what to say for some time.

However, she immediately thought of something else and

imperceptibly sighed.

Between her and Lin Ming, it was impossible to have a home filled with children and grandchildren.

This was because the more powerful a race was, the more difficult it was to bear children. God Beasts were the supreme example of this.

Even when two God Beasts of the same race came together, they might not be able to produce a child. As for Xiao Moxian, she was a half-phoenix. Her birth was a miracle of the universe, something that might not occur even within a billion years in the Divine Realm.

With Xiao Moxian, her God Beast bloodline was already far paler than that of a true God Beast. But with Lin Ming, it wouldn't be easy to have children. Although having children wouldn't be as difficult as Xiao Moxian's own birth, it wouldn't be strange if she never became pregnant in hundreds of thousands or even millions of years. In the worst case situation, she would never have children of her own.

Thinking of this, Xiao Moxian was inexplicably moved. She couldn't help but fear such a future.

She wanted to have a child – a child that belonged to her and Lin Ming.

Lin Ming and Xiao Moxian's minds were connected and he could faintly guess what she was thinking. He gently gripped her hand...

.....

That night, Lin Ming bid his farewells to Suyu. He also went searching for Old Su and Old Xue and said his goodbyes to them too.

Besides that, he didn't alert anyone else. After all, Lin Ming was far too valuable and had far too much wealth on him. Even if he had a supposed great master behind him serving as a deterrent, he

couldn't guarantee that some people wouldn't decide to take the risk to kidnap him.

He first changed his appearance with the Divine Dream Law. Then, Xiao Moxian hid away in Primordius Heavenly Palace. With this, he quietly left through a secret transmission network within the Divine Runic Masters Guild. He blended into the crowds of people and disappeared into the endless night...

The broad and limitless inner Asura Road lay before him. The vast starry skies illuminated the great wilderness.

In this world, there were countless hidden divine treasure troves. Innumerable heroes journeyed through this world, finding their own fortunes, many of them dying in the process.

Lin Ming disguised Primordius Heavenly Palace as a spirit ship. Then, like a meteor, he cut through the skies...

Chapter 1655 – Seeing Empyrean Divine Mist Once Again

God Burying Ridge was located in the outer Asura Road, and the outer Asura Road was separated from the inner Asura Road by the Great Desolate. To travel through this expanse was something that not even an Empyrean could do, let alone Lin Ming.

However, Lin Ming had used part of his 5 billion points to purchase an Asura Command. Using this Asura Command, he was able to take an ancient transmission array that teleported him to the outer Asura Road.

Since he left God Burying Ridge, almost 30 years had passed.

God Burying Ridge was still a famous dangerous land within the Great Desolate. Sometimes a trial challenger received missions that sent them to the peripheries or even into God Burying Ridge itself and they would have to hire a guide or two to lead them in. Even so, there was only a narrow chance of surviving that nightmarish land.

Of course, this wasn't a problem to Lin Ming at all.

He flew towards God Burying Ridge almost in a straight line. There simply wasn't much that was able to hinder him.

Just an hour later, Lin Ming arrived at Tragic Death Valley.

This place hadn't changed at all. The entrance of Tragic Death Valley resembled a massive black hole, a door that one could only enter through and never leave.

Lin Ming didn't hesitate. He controlled Primordius Heavenly Palace and flew straight in.

Compared to the gaping black hole entrance, Primordius Heavenly Palace was like a little pebble sinking into a lake. It quietly sank in without arousing the tiniest wave.

As soon as they entered Tragic Death Valley, Lin Ming and Xiao Moxian stepped out and arrived at the God Beast Tomb with a familiar ease.

Here was the dwelling where Empyrean Divine Mist stayed.

But as Lin Ming stepped in front of the dwelling and saw Empyrean Divine Mist's situation, he felt his heart ache.

Empyrean Divine Mist's dwelling was constructed in the crevice between two giant God Beast bones. Within this dwelling was a giant soul crystal where Empyrean Divine Mist had sealed away his mortal body. The image he gave off was similar to that of a fly trapped inside amber.

But, the giant soul crystal that was used to maintain Empyrean Divine Mist's life was already ruined. The soul crystal was covered with cracks and many places had been turned to white powder; this was what happened after a soul crystal lost its energy.

Dusting off this powder, Lin Ming finally saw Empyrean Divine Mist sealed within.

At this time, Empyrean Divine Mist's eyes were shut tight. His appearance was old and decrepit, like a piece of deadwood that had long since lost any vibrancy.

His body didn't glow at all nor were there any life fluctuations. He was no different from a dead person.

"Grandpa Divine Mist..." Xiao Moxian whispered, her heart nearly pulled out of her chest. She was afraid of what she saw. During the nine years she spent in Tragic Death Valley, she had been with Empyrean Divine Mist for a great portion of that time and had slowly come to call him grandpa.

Lin Ming frowned. After staring at Empyrean Divine Mist for a long time, he slowly took out the Soul Recovery Pill he had refined.

This Soul Recovery Pill had used up 200 million points' worth of materials. It was the highest level of pill that Lin Ming could

currently create.

He gently guided a wisp of the pill's soul recovering essence energy to enter the soul crystal, slowly nourishing Empyrean Divine Mist's dilapidated body.

Lin Ming could feel that Empyrean Divine Mist had yet to completely die. He should have entered a state of suspended animation in which all of his life activities were reduced to nothing.

In truth, this state wasn't much different from true death.

The pill that Lin Ming refined was still almost a transcendent divine level pill. Even a wisp of essence energy was extraordinary. The soul crystal that had lost nearly all of its soul energy began to glow once more after being vitalized by this essence energy.

However, Empyrean Divine Mist himself remained motionless, his eyes still shut tight.

If Lin Ming had anything, it was patience. Slowly, bit by bit, he poured in the divine soul energy from the Soul Recovery Pill. This energy came as thinly and gently as threads of silk. The reason he did this was because he was afraid that Empyrean Divine Mist's crumbling body wouldn't be able to withstand an influx of energy.

This process continued for an entire day and night.

After a fifth of the Soul Recovery Pill's soul energy was consumed, Empyrean Divine Mist's eyelids finally quivered.

Although this movement was almost imperceptible, Xiao Moxian still nearly jumped up from where she was. "Big Brother Lin!"

"I saw it..."

Lin Ming's expression was extremely focused. His hands and motions remained unhesitant and the energy flow he poured in also remained steady and smooth.

At this time, Lin Ming and Xiao Moxian heard an old voice echo

in their ears. “You... you came back...”

Empyrean Divine Mist slowly opened his eyes. Seemingly because he had lost almost all of his life force, he opened his eyes with great difficulty.

Although he had regained consciousness, the fires of his life were a dwindling flame in a hurricane. The dignified aura and majesty of an Empyrean had mostly faded away from his body. Currently, Empyrean Divine Mist resembled an old mortal man knocking on death’s door.

“An almost transcendent divine pill level Soul Recovery Pill... on me... this is wasted...”

Empyrean Divine Mist lightly sighed, as if he had already given up all thoughts of living on in this hell.

“Grandpa Divine Mist, how come you don’t want to live on? Don’t you want to take revenge?” Xiao Moxian said with a faintly reproachful tone.

“Revenge? That is too far away...” Empyrean Divine Mist closed his eyes once more, feeling far too tired. His enemy was a True Divinity level powerhouse. With his abilities, revenge was impossible.

Empyrean Divine Mist didn’t even have any hopes that Lin Ming would take revenge for him. Even though he believed that Lin Ming would one day break into the True Divinity realm, that was an incomparably distant matter. Moreover, since both of them would be True Divinities, why would Lin Ming go all-out in a battle with Empyrean Divine Void for a half-dead man like himself?

Empyrean Divine Mist had long since given up thoughts of revenge.

“This pill... where did you find it?”

Empyrean Divine Mist looked towards Lin Ming. Even though he knew Lin Ming was strong, his cultivation was still limited. It

would be extremely difficult for him to acquire a nearly transcendent divine pill level Soul Recovery Pill. Even if he sold all his possessions he might not have the money for it.

“Junior refined it himself.” Lin Ming honestly said.

“What?” Lin Ming’s words caused a flash of astonishment to cross Empyrean Divine Mist’s face.

“You refined it... yourself...?”

Empyrean Divine Mist looked at Lin Ming with disbelief sketched on his face, nearly unable to believe his own ears. “This pill... even a Great World King level alchemist... might not be confident enough to refine it... moreover... there is also the divine runic arts used upon it...”

Empyrean Divine Mist was a spiritus Empyrean, thus he naturally had an understanding of the Divine Runic Arts. He could see that the divine runic symbol on the Soul Recovery Pill stemmed from the hands of some considerably talented individual.

Just as Lin Ming was thinking about how to explain this, Empyrean Divine Mist didn’t seem to have any idea of asking. Empyrean Divine Mist sighed and said, “Forget it... you are someone who broke through the God Beast Tomb array formation that no one managed to break through for 10 billion years... it isn’t strange... for anything to happen to you...”

Empyrean Divine Mist slowly said, each word seeming to use up a massive amount of his origin energy.

Lin Ming probed Empyrean Divine Mist’s situation. In the end, he couldn’t help but come to the conclusion that even the Soul Recovery Pill wouldn’t be able to bring back Empyrean Divine Mist’s life from the brink of death...

Empyrean Divine Mist’s life was already ruined. Even if he were to completely digest all the medicinal efficacy within this Soul Recovery Pill, the most he could live for was another few thousand

years. Even if Lin Ming continued to refine Soul Recovery Pills for Empyrean Divine Mist, the longest he could live on was 10,000 years. It was impossible for him to live any longer than this.

And these 10,000 years of life would only mean more suffering and more pain for Empyrean Divine Mist.

He had lived in this eternally dark forsaken land. To live for another 10,000 years... was there any meaning to it?

If Soul Emperor Divine Void didn't die, he would never be able to leave.

And with Soul Emperor Divine Void's status as a True Divinity level powerhouse, it was impossible for Lin Ming to kill him before Empyrean Divine Mist turned to ashes.

Thinking of this, Lin Ming suddenly stopped his movements, as if he were coming to a decision.

"Big Brother Lin, what are you..."

Xiao Moxian was puzzled.

Lin Ming hesitated for a long time. Then, he said, "Senior Divine Mist, junior has a divine tool that can hold your soul. But, this is only your soul. You will have to discard your mortal body."

The divine tool that Lin Ming spoke of was the Magic Cube.

The spiritas had mortal bodies, but their mortal bodies were nearly unable to be trained. The main use of their mortal bodies was to serve as vessels for their souls.

Lin Ming asked Empyrean Divine Mist to give up on his mortal body and allow his soul to be sealed in the Magic Cube where he would fall into a deep sleep. When Lin Ming was powerful enough, he could find a way to help Divine Mist recover consciousness and then find a body for him.

At the very least, Empyrean Divine Mist could watch as he took revenge on Empyrean Divine Void for him.

Then he could die in peace.

“Divine tool?” Divine Mist was startled. He could faintly feel that this divine tool that Lin Ming referred to was his secret. If he called it a divine tool then it definitely wasn’t something ordinary. It had to be at least a treasure refined by a True Divinity.

However, he still sighed and said, “It’s useless. Even if it is only my soul, as long as I leave Tragic Death Valley my brother will sense me. When he arrives, you will die...”

“We can try...”

Lin Ming was extremely confident in the Magic Cube. Through these years he had confirmed that the Magic Cube was something that surpassed the realm of True Divinity.

Within the Magic Cube was another world, one separate from all rules.

No matter what rules people created, they had never been able to block the Magic Cube. The only exception had been the Asura Road Master. In some ways, the rules he laid down in the Asura Road could not be violated by the Magic Cube; they could be said to stand even with each other.

Lin Ming didn’t believe that Soul Emperor Divine Void could stand on par with the Asura Road Master.

As for the secrets of the Magic Cube, once Empyrean Divine Mist’s soul was sealed within it and placed in a deep slumber, it would be impossible for him to reveal any secrets, so Lin Ming wasn’t worried about it.

As Lin Ming thought this, he flicked his fingers. From within his inner world, a black cube slowly flew out and began revolving in the air.

When Empyrean Divine Mist saw this black cube, his mind suddenly shook!

From the point of death, Empyrean Divine Mist recovered a great deal of his spirit. He stared at the Magic Cube, surprised and speechless.

His eyes shot wide open. After gazing at the Magic Cube for a long time, he mumbled. “How is this possible... this thing... this is...”

Seeing Empyrean Divine Mist’s reaction, Lin Ming was startled. He asked in return, “Senior, do you happen to know of this divine tool?”

Chapter 1656 – Legend of the Spiritas

Empyrean Divine Mist seemed to fall into a long period of recollection. He closed his eyes, deep in thought. After a long time he finally began to slowly say, “I cannot be sure, but if I’m not wrong, this should be the Stone of Eternal Life recorded within the Spiritas Holy Scripture. With this stone, your soul will become eternal and your life everlasting...”

“Spiritas Holy Scripture...” Lin Ming mumbled. He thought back to what he knew and faintly remembered that there was such a book.

Lin Ming had swallowed the memories of dark and perverse divine runic masters like Torchriver. And, these divine runic masters were almost nearly all spiritas. Some of them had even read duplicate copies of the Spiritas Holy Scripture and knew some of the records within. But because these memories weren’t too important to Lin Ming’s training of the divine runic arts, he hadn’t studied them, but he hadn’t tossed them away either.

Now that Empyrean Divine Mist spoke of this term, Lin Ming carefully went back through the memories he had of the Spiritas Holy Scripture.

The Spiritas Holy Scripture could be called the most mysterious and enigmatic sacred text of the spiritas. It was impossible to know just which supreme elder had written the Spiritas Holy Scripture, but there were many things recorded within it. Some things were secrets of the universe, some were notes on the Laws, and some were even prophecies of the future. All of this text had been slowly verified over time!

It was no longer known where the original Spiritas Holy Scripture was. According to some rumors, it was within the hands of a spiritas True Divinity level great emperor. As for the Spiritas Holy Scripture that spread out to the entire spiritas race, that was

nothing but a duplicate.

Even though it was a duplicate, this text wasn't something that everyone could read, simply because there were far too many secrets within that were related to the spiritas. It was a strange and mystical existence, and ordinary spiritas martial artists didn't even know of its existence.

Those on the level of Torchriver were only able to come into faint contact with it.

The duplicate copies of the Spiritas Holy Scripture could only reproduce the text of the universe's secrets as well as some archaic prophecies. As for the recordings of the Laws and other such things, those were impossible to copy.

Thus, there was simply no comparing the value of the duplicate of the Spiritas Holy Scripture to the original.

In Torchriver's mind, if someone was able to obtain the original copy of the Spiritas Holy Scripture and also had extraordinary talent, they could cultivate the Laws within the text. They could rely on the information within the Spiritas Holy Scripture to avoid disasters and take control of the world, inevitably becoming someone that ruled the era!

At this time, Empyrean Divine Mist was still staring at the Magic Cube.

Whether it was the dark gray cube shape, the patterns on it, or even the aura that aroused the awe and reverence from the innermost soul of any spiritas martial artist, it was completely similar to the Stone of Eternal Life recorded within the Spiritas Holy Scripture.

This oppression of the soul ignored all boundaries and all cultivations. As long as one stood before this mysterious black cube, one would feel as if this cube was the master of all souls and be unable to resist it!

All of this proved that Empyrean Divine Mist's guess must be correct!

"I never thought... that before I died... I would have the chance to see a divine tool like this. In my prime I could shake the earth and change the winds, but now in my old age I'm in such a sad state. Even so, in the depths of my despair, as my life approaches its end, I was able to catch a glimpse of the Stone of Eternal Life..." Empyrean Divine Mist sighed as he spoke to here. As he looked at Lin Ming, his eyes were shining with a brilliant light.

"Junior... it seems you have already had the Stone of Eternal Life for some time. Perhaps even your current achievements are greatly related to it. You should be well aware of how precious the Stone of Eternal Life is and yet you still took it out in front of me. Aren't you afraid that I'm not actually as weak as I appear to be, and that I might try to wrest the stone from your hands?"

Empyrean Divine Mist suddenly said with a deep meaning in his tone. Even Xiao Moxian felt her heart shrink upon hearing this.

After all, an Empyrean level powerhouse placed far too much pressure on someone. Even an Empyrean on the edge of death was able to release a terrifying pressure, just like an injured tiger facing a mortal.

Lin Ming quietly said, "Senior Divine Mist truly likes to jest. Junior can feel that you really are near the end of your rope, and you simply have no reason to disguise yourself from us and pretend to be so weakened. If you don't possess the power to kill me, then there is no meaning in disguising yourself. On the other hand, if you had the ability to kill me, you simply wouldn't need to disguise yourself anyways. You would have simply just killed me. In fact, there is no need for you to have waited until now. When I first entered Tragic Death Valley and broke through the secrets of the God Beast Tomb array formation you could have finished me then. At that time I was even weaker and you were even stronger..."

As Lin Ming explained his analysis his voice was calm and placid, but he still retained full vigilance.

The truth was that even Empyrean Divine Mist found it hard to correctly judge Lin Ming's strength. Although Lin Ming still wasn't a match for a Great World King, he could use the special environment in Tragic Death Valley, his understandings of the array formations here, his divine runic symbols, and even his comprehension of the Asura Heavenly Dao to struggle with a Great World King and seek a path of survival.

An Empyrean sounded like a terrifying existence. But when compared to a Great World King, they were in fact only a large boundary higher.

How could a completely exhausted Empyrean Divine Mist on the verge of death be superior to a Great World King?

And most importantly, Lin Ming had a trump card in the Magic Cube. Against Empyrean Divine Mist whose mortal body was thoroughly ruined and had nothing left but his soul form, the Magic Cube was his ultimate nemesis.

It was with this guarantee that Lin Ming was willing to take out the Magic Cube. Otherwise, Lin Ming would have protected the Magic Cube until the end. The Magic Cube was his greatest secret. Besides Xiao Moxian and Mo Eversnow, no one else knew about it.

Empyrean Divine Mist gazed deeply at Lin Ming. Then he said, "You're quite brave... in order to save me, you were actually willing to take such a risk. I will remember this favor..."

Empyrean Divine Mist slowly said. He was originally a top extreme figure and he rarely made such solemn promises. "I never imagined you would possess the Stone of Eternal Life. Perhaps... perhaps there really is a chance for me to find a turning point in my life... if I can recover, then I will help you with all my heart and soul!"

As Empyrean Divine Mist finished speaking these words he seemed to have used up all of his strength. His soul fluctuations became chaotic once more. He was simply far too weak. Even with the help of the Soul Recovery Pill, he couldn't speak so many words.

“Senior, what does the Spiritas Holy Scripture have recorded about the Stone of Eternal Life?” Lin Ming asked. Torchriver's memories about the contents of the Spiritas Holy Scripture were simply far too lacking.

Empyrean Divine Mist was deep in thought for some time, as if he were gathering his energy to speak. Then, in a slow and aged tone, he said, “The Spiritas Holy Scripture records that if one obtains the Magic Cube and then cultivates the Spiritas Heavenly Dao within the Spiritas Holy Scripture to the highest boundary, and then satisfies a few more conditions, there is a chance that they can control the strongest force in the world and live on in perpetuity. That is, an unaging immortality...”

“Unaging immortality...” Lin Ming whispered. Immortality was the dream of all living beings in the universe, the ultimate goal that martial artists pursued.

In a sense, the reason martial artists risked all sorts of life-threatening dangers and unendingly chased after higher realms of cultivation was because of the satisfactions brought from increased strength, but also because they earnestly desired life!

The higher one's cultivation, the longer they lived. To martial artists, this was a fatal temptation.

Even Lin Ming desired immortality.

To be earth-shaking, to rule over the heavens and earth, to dominate all living beings, to live infinitely brilliantly, to feast upon all the pleasures of existence, just who was willing to then be finally defeated by the tides of time, falling to entropy, slowly weakening and decaying until they turned to dust?

The end of a hero's road, the withering of beauty – when one imagined the eternal deep sleep and loneliness that came after death, every person would inevitably feel an indescribable fear.

In this world, the strongest person Lin Ming knew of was the Asura Road Master. Lin Ming wondered whether or not the Asura Road Master had broken through the barrier of immortality. Was he now dead, or was he existing in some hidden corner of the world?

Whether or not the Asura Road Master managed to achieve immortality, trying to break through the boundary of everlasting life was as difficult as ascending to heaven. But now, Empyrean Divine Mist actually stated that the Spiritas Holy Scripture recorded a cultivation method pertaining to immortality; how could Lin Ming not be startled!

He once again asked Empyrean Divine Mist about information related to the contents of the Spiritas Holy Scripture. However, the Spiritas Holy Scripture that Empyrean Divine Mist saw was only a copy; the original had been long lost.

Thus, even Empyrean Divine Mist didn't know what one needed to achieve the realm of immortality. Besides possessing the Magic Cube and cultivating the Spiritas Heavenly Dao within the Spiritas Holy Scripture, just what other conditions were required?

.....

After his conversation with Empyrean Divine Mist ended, Lin Ming used three days to allow Empyrean Divine Mist to absorb all the essence energy within the Soul Recovery Pill. Then, Lin Ming shattered the decaying soul crystal and pulled Empyrean Divine Mist's soul from his ruined body, receiving him into the Magic Cube and sealing him away!

With this, Empyrean Divine Mist's soul fell into a completely dormant state, frozen within the Magic Cube.

After finishing all of this, Lin Ming didn't yet leave Tragic Death Valley. Instead, he stayed there for some time.

He had many matters he needed to attend to.

One couldn't instantly reach the late Divine Lord realm; time and patience were required. Lin Ming needed time to consolidate his cultivation and lay the foundation for his next breakthrough.

At the same time, Lin Ming needed to hone his skills in divine runic arts and alchemy in order to prepare for refining the Ravenous Wolf Heaven Pill. Before the final trial began, he had to break through into the second Dao Palace!

All of this required time.

As for Tragic Death Valley, it was the only place Lin Ming had ever seen which twisted the flow of time but didn't distort the Laws. Cultivating here was the best place to do so.

Then, Lin Ming took out Primordius Heavenly Palace and flew in with Xiao Moxian, entering a long period of seclusion.

One month outside, one spring and fall in the valley. Training passed without sense of time. Year by year quietly passed.

Before coming here, Lin Ming had spent his contribution points on purchasing a seemingly endless pile of materials from the Divine Runic Masters Guild. And, these materials were all used by Lin Ming on the divine runic arts and alchemy.

If Lin Ming was going to enter the final trial, he needed to draw up some strong divine runic symbols to prepare for emergencies.

Chapter 1657 – Ancient Forbidden Land

In Tragic Death Valley, 15 years passed.

On this day, overwhelming black flames swelled up into the skies. The God Beast Tomb array formation was swept up in these flames.

Within this black sea of flames, a fiery phoenix cried out as it flew in circles in the sky. Then, it dove down, causing a violent explosion!

In this crazy storm of flames, a black-clothed girl stretched her body. As she wandered about in the star-like flames that could melt stone, she seemed like a spirit of flames.

This black-clothed girl was Xiao Moxian.

15 years later, she had stepped ahead of Lin Ming and entered the late Divine Lord realm!

As for Lin Ming, because he studied the divine runic arts, dual cultivated body and energy, and also had to practice alchemy, his speed in the essence gathering system couldn't compare with Xiao Moxian's.

“Big Brother Lin, I broke through!”

Xiao Moxian happily smiled as she suppressed all of the flames. With this, she would be able to help Lin Ming more in the final trial.

After breaking into the late Divine Lord realm and also having undergone her first phoenix nirvana, although Xiao Moxian was slightly weaker than Lin Ming, fighting a weaker ordinary World King wouldn't prove a problem.

“Well done!” Lin Ming said, happy for Xiao Moxian from the depths of his heart. “My divine runic arts have also reached a sufficient level. I now have a good enough understanding if I were

to attempt refining the Ravenous Wolf Heaven Pill... it's almost time to leave. I plan on breaking into the second Dao Palace and then going into seclusion again. Before I enter the final trial, I also must break into the late Divine Lord realm!"

As Lin Ming spoke he took out several rare materials from his spatial ring.

With the dragon saliva grass and jade dragon horn placed together, these two dragon race spirit treasures emitted a strong draconic aura, mixing up the void. In the air, one could hear the faint howling of a White Dragon and an Azure Dragon.

Even the heaven devouring snake gallbladder was excited. It released a deep killing aura, overflowing with a profound desolateness.

A massive python phantom appeared in the skies. Its shimmering silver scales glistened as it hissed, seeming to struggle with the two dragon auras around it.

As for the primal jade quintessence, it remained tranquil. It emitted waves of yellow earthen light, like a turtle that had not moved for tens of thousands of years...

Seeing all of these phenomena occurring within his spatial ring, Lin Ming gripped his fists.

Each material here had taken a great deal of time and effort to obtain. Now, he was finally taking steady steps on the path towards refining the Ravenous Wolf Heaven Pill.

"Big Brother Lin, you want to refine the Ravenous Wolf Heaven Pill now?" Xiao Moxian asked in anticipation as she looked at the brilliant lights of the spirit treasures shooting out from the spatial ring.

Looking at Xiao Moxian's hopeful eyes, Lin Ming shook his head. "It's not that fast. The Nine Stars of the Dao Palace are each strange and unusual and even the methods to break into each one

are varied and different. This is because in the Nine Stars of the Dao Palace, each star represents a different true meaning of the universe's Laws. This true meaning must be understood and added in, and only then can one truly refine the pill required to impact the boundary."

Xiao Moxian's eyebrows twisted together. "But Big Brother Lin, when you attacked the Nine Stars of the Dao Palace's Army Breaker Star, the process didn't seem so complex. You simply put forth an all-out effort and broke through..."

"Not so complex?" Lin Ming chuckled. As he thought of the various preparations he had made in order to break through the first Dao Palace, he could go on for days speaking about them.

"For the first Dao Palace of the Nine Stars of the Dao Palace, I started by creating a foundation when I absorbed the blood vitality from the great emperor's heart in the Eternal Demon Abyss. Then, I had the Grandmist Spirit Bead essence as the main medicinal force to attack the boundary, the energy from my avatar to support, and finally I even had to rely on your phoenix primordial yin to just barely break through the shackles of the world and refine the Army Breaker Star. At the time, even the God Burying Ridge's dao field killing array helped me by increasing the Buddha-slaying destiny upon my body, allowing me to reattempt the breakthrough even after Tian Mingzi shattered my first attempt. The killing intent of that time had been monstrously large. In terms of helping me impact the Nine Stars of the Dao Palace, the truth was that it was no trifling matter."

Lin Ming recalled the scene when he broke through the Nine Stars of the Dao Palace. It could be said that the overlapping waves had combined together to help him overcome the barrier.

The evil infernal energy in that danger zone hadn't directly helped him break through to the Army Breaker Star, but it had resonated with the nature and meaning of the Army Breaker Star.

Now, to attack the second Dao Palace, the corresponding star was the Ravenous Wolf Star.

If the Laws of the heavens and earth hadn't changed, then breaking through to the Ravenous Wolf Star wouldn't have been difficult. But present times were different. According to what was recorded in the Celestial Tyrant Manual, the Ravenous Wolf Star was ever-changing and hard to capture. Under the current Heavenly Dao rules, if Lin Ming wanted to break into the Heavenly Retribution Dao Palace and its corresponding Ravenous Wolf Star, it wouldn't be easy at all.

He planned to use the universe's wild and primal world momentum to suppress the crafty and slippery Ravenous Wolf Star!

So to refine the Ravenous Wolf Star, he needed a certain world trend to combine with it!

In the God Beast Tomb, cold winds howled. Lin Ming's mind was completely immersed in the Celestial Tyrant Manual. His hands cut through the void. The spiritual strength revolved according to the records within the manual, forming faint outlines of mountain ranges, rivers, and galaxies...

Immersed in this training, he forgot the passing of time.

A month passed in the blink of an eye. Lin Ming continually analyzed the method for breaking into the second Dao Palace.

With his comprehensions of the Celestial Tyrant Manual in addition to Torchriver's memories, he mentally searched the endless miles within the Asura Road for the most suitable ancient desolate mystic realm for him to break through to the second Dao Palace.

He slowly scrutinized each possibility and ruled them out. Then, a flash of purple lightning shined in Lin Ming's eyes. He had more or less determined his target.

“Xian’er, let’s leave!” Lin Ming said as he stood up.

“Leave Tragic Death Valley?”

“Yes, we’re going back to the inner Asura Road!”

Lin Ming’s decision was decisive. Xiao Moxian looked at him, a bit puzzled, and followed after.

15 years within Tragic Death Valley was a year and a half outside. After this time, Lin Ming returned to the inner Asura Road once more.

His goal this time was Heaven’s Secret.

Lin Ming had gone to Heaven’s Secret before to ask about two different things. The first time he went he asked about information relating to cultivation methods for the Nine Stars of the Dao Palace. The second time was to search for evil and cruel divine runic masters like Torchriver.

Heaven’s Secret hadn’t left Lin Ming disappointed. He had received accurate information each time.

Thus, Lin Ming had an unusual level of trust towards them.

Heaven’s Secret was headquartered at Divine Rune City. Returning this time, Lin Ming didn’t alarm anyone as he entered Divine Rune City nor did he reveal his true identity. He let Xiao Moxian stay in Primordius Heavenly Palace as he changed his appearance and entered as a different person.

Lin Ming’s Bodily Rebirth Technique came from Empyrean Divine Dream’s Divine Dream Law. When Lin Ming was at the mere late Divine Transformation realm, his appearance changing technique had been skilled enough to fool a World King.

In the past when Lin Ming first journeyed to God Burying Ridge, he had encountered Imperial Prince Naqi and Mister Zhou at the city gates. Even though Mister Zhou was using a secret searching technique, he still wasn’t able to identify Lin Ming. Then, after

they entered Tragic Death Valley to chase after them, Naqi and his retinue had all been annihilated.

Now that Lin Ming's strength had risen by an entire large boundary, the Bodily Rebirth Technique he used now was completely different from the past. Even some weaker Emphyreans might not be able to see through his disguise.

This ensured Lin Ming's safety. When he left Divine Rune City he had only left a letter to Old Xue to pass on to the Guild President. Besides that, he only spoke to a few select people before quietly leaving. After all, he couldn't guarantee that there wouldn't be some ruthless desperados that wanted to capture him and force him to refine special divine runic symbols.

Now that he returned to Divine Rune City, he didn't want to use his original identity as to avoid all possible troubles.

The moonlight was bright and cold. Lin Ming walked alone in the dim streets, his shadow stretched out far behind him.

As he passed by the Divine Runic Masters Guild, Lin Ming stopped for some time. The stores on the streets had already closed and there were only the vague figures of people bustling around in a hurry. Some of them were divine runic masters entering or leaving the guild, but none of them spared Lin Ming a second glance. They only regarded Lin Ming as a youth who wanted to become a divine runic master and lived near the Divine Runic Masters Guild. In front of the Divine Runic Masters Guild there were always crowds of youths that dreamed of becoming a divine runic master and would idle by the entrance.

The night wind blew cold, making the night of Divine Rune City seem much more bleak and lonely.

However, Lin Ming didn't enter. As Suyu had said, their parting had been for forever.

In the hazy gloom of night, Lin Ming continued walking. His

footsteps echoed on the smooth crystal paved road, sounding further and further away...

.....

The headquarters of Heaven's Secret stood tall in the center region of Divine Rune City.

In the moonlight, the towering crystalline pavilion seemed profoundly mysterious.

Stepping into the first floor of the building, two blue-clothed youths stopped Lin Ming. Their voices were quiet and their tones were respectful. "Honored guest, please return. Heaven's Secret Pavilion's working hours have passed and the pavilion superior within is resting."

Heaven's Secret Pavilion had a manager on each floor, and these managers were called pavilion superiors.

The gate guards' words didn't dispel Lin Ming's determination to enter. He faintly smiled and pulled out a crystal card. This crystal card was a receipt of payment but also a symbol of his status as a VIP guest. "I have an important matter to attend to. I might need to go to a higher floor to make an inquiry..."

In Heaven's Secret, the higher the floor one went to, the more expensive the information.

The gate guard took a look at the crystal card and then hesitated for a moment before inviting Lin Ming inside.

Lin Ming walked straight into the sixth floor of Heaven's Secret Pavilion and entered the opulent guest room. After waiting for a moment, the rustling of bead curtains signaled the arrival of someone.

A blue-clothed old man walked in. He seemed in good health and spirit and his eyes were sharp and fierce. "The pavilion superiors are already resting and it's just me, the superior of the sixth floor still remaining. Sir, may I ask what information you are here to

inquire about?” The pavilion superior’s eyes gazed at Lin Ming, but he wasn’t able to see through Lin Ming’s appearance changing technique.

“I want to ask about the world of the Asura Road. I need all information there is on certain forbidden zones.” Lin Ming said.

“What places are they?” The pavilion superior asked, his eyelids slowly lifting up.

“Yin Yang Despair Valley, Forsaken Mortal Tomb.” Lin Ming slowly and clearly said.

The pavilion superior shook as he heard these names, bewildered. He gazed deeply at Lin Ming and his eyes widened. Even his breathing became much heavier.

“These two places are amongst the most dangerous life forbidden zones in the Asura Road and they are amongst the most taboo to mention... do you plan on going?”

“Mm.” Lin Ming nodded.

“Alright!”

Heaven’s Secret Pavilion only provided information; they would never persuade their customers to change their mind. If Lin Ming wanted information, they would naturally provide it.

Chapter 1658A – Entering Despair Valley

The Asura Road had several famous danger zones. For instance, God Burying Ridge, Tragic Death Valley, the Stormy Sea and the Drifting Islands, and so forth...

Of these places, the most dangerous was Tragic Death Valley. As long as one entered it was impossible to leave. Even a peak Empyrean would perish there.

As for Yin Yang Despair Valley and the Forsaken Mortal Tomb, their infamous reputation was not as terrifying as Tragic Death Valley's, but they still had their own peculiarities. They were lands shrouded in a gloom of mystery and magic. People only knew that these places were located deep in the Great Desolate, but without accurate information it was impossible to find their positions.

It was also because of this that Lin Ming went to Heaven's Secret to find information.

Regarding the risks of Yin Yang Despair Valley and the Forsaken Mortal Tomb, Lin Ming wasn't too fearful of them. Because he understood the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws he was particularly adept at dealing with the dangers in the Asura Road.

The pavilion superior pondered for a moment and then said, "About the price for information about Yin Yang Despair Valley, it is 5 billion origin energy runes or 300 million contribution points from the Divine Runic Masters Guild..."

Heaven's Secret Pavilion usually charged a common currency of the Asura Road for their information, such as origin energy runes. But since their headquarters were in Divine Rune City, they could also take contribution points at a discount.

Contribution points in other words could be called items. To go shopping with points was to actually barter with them. The Divine Runic Masters Guild issued points in accordance with certain

resources and materials that were turned in. If one had sufficient points, they could trade them in for nearly any materials within the Divine Runic Masters Guild warehouse.

300 million points?

Lin Ming's lips twitched. This price was far, far higher than the information he obtained when he came before. 300 million points was on average slightly less than half an Empyrean spirit treasure, but this price could only be used to purchase some information.

Lin Ming looked at the pavilion superior. The pavilion superior understood what Lin Ming was thinking. He said, "Only very few people have information pertaining to Yin Yang Despair Valley. It is a place that is always moving around, disappearing and appearing within the Great Desolate. In order to collect information related to it, we have had to pay a great price..."

"My Heaven's Secret is based on honesty and good faith on our part. We will never sell false information nor will we charge inappropriately high prices. Every piece of information from us is well worth the price. If you have insufficient money then you can collect the amount needed before returning for the information." The old man faintly said, clearly not willing to reduce the price.

"Okay." Lin Ming nodded. As the old man said, Heaven's Secret had already existed for countless hundreds of thousands of years and were considerably prestigious. When Lin Ming had purchased the two pieces of information before, he had found them to be fully satisfactory.

Lin Ming took out a contribution points jade slip with 300 million points.

300 million contribution points was not a small amount. For Lin Ming to take out this amount so casually without needing any time to collect it, even the pavilion superior looked at him with surprise in his eyes as he tried to guess the identity of the young man in front of him.

After receiving the points, the old man leaned forwards and spoke with a lowered voice. “At the end of the road where the red moon disappears, where the coiling ridge giants live, where the sea falls from the heavens and into the endless deep, that is where you will find the place you seek.”

These strange and obscure code words fluttered into Lin Ming’s mind.

Lin Ming was perplexed. “Red moon? Coiling ridge giants?”

“Yes, the coiling ridge giants are an ancient race that exists in the Great Desolate. Although they appear human, the truth is that they are archaic vicious beasts from time immemorial. They can grow up to hundreds of feet high and their species is able to smash apart mountain ridges. Their ancestors once experienced a magnificent golden age, where their royalty was able to stand on par with God Beasts. But since then they have been in slow decline. Yin Yang Despair Valley is the land that they protect, and as for why they are protecting that land, no one knows...

“If you wish to enter Yin Yang Despair Valley, then finding the coiling ridge giants will bring you there. However...”

As the pavilion superior spoke to him he paused, changing his tone. He said, “Although coiling ridge giants are no longer as terrifying as they once were, the especially powerful warriors amongst them can compare with an ordinary World King. As for you...”

The pavilion superior looked over Lin Ming. Lin Ming’s cultivation was simply far too low.

“Thank you for the advice.” Lin Ming faintly smiled and stood up. He could contend with an ordinary World King level vicious beast, but if there were many of them then things would become tricky. It could be said that a great portion of Yin Yang Despair Valley’s dangers originated from the fact that it was located deep within the Great Desolate, where endless powerful monsters and

mystical existences lived.

.....

The Great Desolate was vast and endless.

In the world of the Asura Road, amazing geniuses had emerged from the countless generations. Of these, even extraordinary individuals, True Divinities, the proud children favored by the heavens had appeared.

But, not once had there ever been someone that arrived at the end point of the Great Desolate.

As for what lay at the terminus of the Great Desolate, no one knew nor could anyone investigate it. Horrifying God Beasts, endless space storms and time traps, all of this caused anyone to shrink back at the thought of approaching.

Some people even suspected that the inner Asura Road and outer Asura Road were two different worlds that were completely separated by the Great Desolate, not connected at all.

Whether it was the proud sons and daughters of the heavens or Empyrean powerhouses, no one had ever returned from the deepest depths of the Great Desolate.

Lin Ming brought Xiao Moxian and flew low in the skies. A full 10 days had already passed.

During these 10 days, they had flown past many mountains and danger zones. They had witnessed many scenes in depths of the Great Desolate that were filled with slaughter and the scent of blood.

This was a truly lawless world without morals or compassion; only the strongest fist survived here.

10 days later, they reached a boundless mountain range that reached high into the skies. It towered in front of Xiao Moxian and Lin Ming.

The pure white snow shined above the endless peaks, giving off a brilliant radiance.

This mountain was over 100,000 feet high. At the top, inexhaustible strong heavenly winds surged about. Those that were slightly weaker would have their souls torn apart by this wind without even their bones left over.

“This is the Red Moon Mountain Range. After the sun of the Great Desolate falls behind this mountain range, the entire Asura Road falls into darkness...”

Xiao Moxian grasped a rough map of the Great Desolate, pointing towards a distant location as she spoke to Lin Ming.

The Great Desolate was the most brutal land in the entire Asura Road. There was endless killings and treacherous environments here. Moreover, it never ended, not even pausing a little.

This was the reason the Great Desolate map was incomplete. Every tiny part of this map had been recorded down by countless trial challengers who had braved the dangers to accomplish missions they were assigned.

Lin Ming had paid a steep price to purchase 10 different maps and then piece them together, just barely managing to understand a good number of areas within the Great Desolate.

First, he discovered that the part of the riddle that Heaven’s Secret Pavilion had given him, ‘at the end of the road where the red moon disappears’, should be indicating this place – the Red Moon Mountain Range.

Here they had to find the coiling ridge giants.

The coiling ridge giants were one of the many terrifying species of creatures that dwelled within the Great Desolate. They were as large as hills and in the legends it was said that the strongest coiling ridge giants could rely on their powerful mortal bodies to wrestle with God Beasts.

Lin Ming silently brought out Primordius Heavenly Palace.

Shua –

The palm-sized Primordius Heavenly Palace suddenly rose up into the skies. In that moment, a majestic aura of grandmist energy exuded outwards, filled with the sound of rustling wind.

Waves of immense pressure surged outwards.

Lin Ming and Xiao Moxian's bodies flashed as they entered Primordius Heavenly Palace.

After all, this Red Moon Mountain Range was incomparably strange. Compared to other places, the strong heavenly winds high up in the peaks possessed an even greater tearing strength.

Moreover, there were strange powers mixed within. If some adventurers entered they would find their divine souls destabilized and even have the danger of falling into insanity.

Thus, concerning the lands past the Red Moon Mountain Range, even the people of the Asura Road only knew of the vaguest details about them.

In order to prevent any accidents from occurring, leading the way forwards within Primordius Heavenly Palace was the best choice.

Bang!

Primordius Heavenly Palace rose straight up from the ground. Waves of demonic runes appeared from the winds, mixing in with the heavy grandmist energy and seething about.

Like this, Lin Ming rushed straight towards the peaks of the Red Moon Mountain Range.

In not too long, Primordius Heavenly Palace wildly rocked as if they were a boat in the sea being struck by heavy waves.

“There is indeed something strange here.”

With a thought, a liquid mirror appeared in front of Lin Ming, showing everything that was occurring outside of Primordius Heavenly Palace.

The space here was extremely distorted as if someone was continuously punching and damaging it.

Lin Ming saw magnificent and violent forces swirling around him. Fluctuations of soul force, mental strength, and even fist intents howled through the air, flashing with a crystalline line. Incredibly, these forces had substantialized in these ruinous winds.

All of the forces here seemed to have been preserved over time, eventually becoming a part of the strength that protected this mountain range.

The protective array formations of Primordius Heavenly Palace were continuously pummeled and damaged. However, they were then rapidly repaired by the grandmist energy.

“Even Primordius Heavenly Palace is being smashed into such a condition... aren’t these forces a bit too strong?” Xiao Moxian whispered, secretly dumbfounded.

She was well aware that if she rushed into these strange and explosive energies, it wouldn’t be long before she completely exhausted herself trying to survive.

Luckily, Primordius Heavenly Palace was extremely fast. In just several breaths of time they flew out of this distorted space above the Red Moon Mountain Range.

Immediately, all of the wild and savage strength vanished. Primordius Heavenly Palace crossed the snow white mountain peaks and floated high in space.

In front of them, the depths of the Great Desolate stretched as far as the eye could see. In the distant horizon, a round blood red moon hung high in the sky, seeming as if it could crash into the endless dark at any moment. It was both eerie and beautiful.

“...The coiling ridge giants, I’ve found them!” Lin Ming’s pupils shrank as a flash of electricity sparked through them.

Chapter 1658B – Yin Yang Despair Valley

From a high and commanding position, Lin Ming could see that around a thousand miles away, there were several giants as high as mountains. They had lit up a raging fire that seemed to burn the heavens as they roasted a mountain-sized beast upon it.

“Brother Lin, haha! We’ve finally found the coiling ridge giants. This Yin Yang Despair Valley, Forsaken Valley Tomb is the place that they protect. We should be able to find it soon.” Xiao Moxian said, her smile reaching from ear to ear.

“Yes, but dealing with these wild giants will be troublesome...” Since Yin Yang Despair Valley was a totem-like existence that the coiling ridge giants protected, they naturally wouldn’t let outsiders enter it.

Moreover, these coiling ridge giants were one of the terrifying species that lived in the depths of the Great Desolate. Although they couldn’t be compared with God Beasts, a grown coiling ridge giant could still resist an ordinary World King. Lin Ming could deal with two or three of them, but it would be difficult if more appeared.

“We only need to follow them. According to Heaven’s Secret, the coiling ridge giants only have a small population and are almost always keeping guard over their nearby danger zones. I think the reason they came out this time is to hunt and after their hunt is complete they will return.” Lin Ming confidently said as his eyes passed over the mountain-sized beast that was being roasted.

Xiao Moxian nodded. They focused their attention, patiently waiting.

The three large coiling ridge giants ate for a full two hours, finally finishing eating up that massive vicious beast that hung over the barbecue fire.

Then, the coiling ridge giants burped out loud. They each carried a giant beast over their shoulders and started walking deeper into the Great Desolate.

Bang – Bang – Bang –

Each footstep rang through the air like the beat of a giant drum, shaking the air.

The land surged and shook.

Lin Ming put away Primordius Heavenly Palace, hid his aura, and carefully followed behind the three coiling ridge giants with Xiao Moxian close behind him.

The coiling ridge giants moved fast. Each step left behind a giant footprint in the earth.

After following for an incense stick of time, a ghostly black mountain peak began to appear in the distance.

A single step from a coiling ridge giant could cross over an entire mountain valley. Lin Ming and Xiao Moxian had to doggedly chase after them lest they be left behind.

Suddenly, Lin Ming detected something in the air. His surroundings had become much more humid, to the point where it seemed as if the air would begin leaking water.

“What thick air moisture.” Xiao Moxian commented, surprised.

The two of them flew 10,000 feet high to look further into the distance. As they saw what was several hundred miles away, both of them were stunned.

High in the sky was a titanic flood of water, endlessly falling. It stretched upwards to the heavens and even with Lin Ming’s current strength he couldn’t estimate just where it started. The massive deluge of water fell down like an infinite waterfall, with enough force to shatter the world.

Beneath this flood of water was a profound and unfathomable

darkness.

Water vapor sprayed all around, turning the entire surrounding area into a wet climate zone.

It was unknown how deep that black abyss was, but even that seemingly inexhaustible flood of water couldn't fill it. It was hard to imagine just how large the world beneath was.

"This is 'where the sea falls from the heavens and into the endless deep'! But, where is this water coming from? Why would it be falling down from the skies?" Xiao Moxian muttered to herself, completely bewildered. This strange and amazing creation was simply incredible.

The three coiling ridge giants walked towards the massive sea of water.

Afterwards, with great steps, they walked into the endless waves. Their massive figures were drowned out by the waters.

"These great waters are falling from a mountain peak that is as high as the heavens!" Lin Ming's soul force was keen and he could faintly feel that behind this endless deluge of water was a ghostly black mountain peak, one so high he couldn't make out the top.

This massive mountain peak was so high that even several planets stacked together would seem tiny in front of it. It wasn't something that mortal minds could comprehend.

And they especially couldn't imagine where the source of this water came from.

"Follow them closely!" Lin Ming called out to Xiao Moxian. In order to prevent any mishaps, the two of them once again took out Primordius Heavenly Palace and began riding in it.

But this time, Lin Ming had shrunk Primordius Heavenly Palace much more than before.

Primordius Heavenly Palace itself contained profound time-space

array formations within it and it could shrink or grow to whatever size was needed. Now, Lin Ming turned it into the size of a rock. As he followed behind the three giants, Primordius Heavenly Palace seemed quite common.

Woosh –

Primordius Heavenly Palace emitted a faint aura of grandmist energy as it broke into the rush of water with the three coiling ridge giants.

As soon as they entered the great waters, the endless waves, undercurrents, and massive strengths contained within began to unceasingly tear at Primordius Heavenly Palace.

However, how could an Empyrean spirit treasure be so easily destroyed? A vast strength surged out from the Heavenly Palace, immediately stopping these destructive waves.

Slowly, as Primordius Heavenly Palace cut its way forwards, the force within the waters became weaker.

Faintly, they could make out something a mile away.

A mile in front of them was actually a giant cave.

At the edge of the cave were dozens of coiling ridge giants kneeling on the ground, seeming as if they were worshipping something inside.

One of the coiling ridge giants appeared to be an old man. His body was ash gray and he lay on the ground, motionless.

Nearby was another old coiling ridge giant wearing a strange golden crown. This giant was muttering sacred words and constantly spitting out runes. As these runes appeared, they swallowed the endless spiritual power in the surrounding space and then turned solid gold as they fell onto the skin of the seemingly dead old coiling ridge giant.

Lin Ming and Xiao Moxian could both feel the great strength of

the old coiling ridge giant that seemed to be offering a sacrifice.

Every rune that this giant read out would stir up phantoms in the void. These runes seemed to have been carved into the flesh and blood of the coiling ridge giant, just like the Laws that were carved into the flesh and blood of God Beasts. These types of existences were all favored children of the world!

With so many coiling ridge giants, Lin Ming naturally wouldn't provoke them. This was already considered deep in the Great Desolate and there were countless horrifying and fantastical existences here. Even an Empyrean wouldn't dare recklessly act as they wished.

For now, Lin Ming could only calmly observe what was happening. He couldn't easily enter the cave.

Suddenly, that old giant that was praying shouted out loud. His voice was like a peal of thunder, and even though Lin Ming was hiding within Primordius Heavenly Palace, he still felt his ears shake.

A wave of grandmist energy surged out and only then was this powerful vibrating suppressed.

All of the coiling ridge giants stood up. Four of them were particularly tall and strong, their heads even disappearing into the shadows of the cave.

These four giants lifted up the dead old giant and brought him near the edge of the great waters. Then, they threw his corpse inside, seeming to be burying him this way.

But what was a coincidence was that this massive giant corpse actually started falling towards the area where Lin Ming was!

To Lin Ming, this coincidence was a tremendous misfortune!

The moment that the giant corpse struck the water, the grandmist energy that was being sent out by Primordius Heavenly Palace was also sensed by the worshipping giants.

A lightning sharp vision focused on Primordius Heavenly Palace.

The coiling ridge giants never imagined that there would be some foreign existence hiding in the waves of the water. Moreover, they could feel that this was a powerful entity!

They were angry – they roared!

The boundless soundwaves struck like endlessly crashing shockwaves as they hurtled at Primordius Heavenly Palace. Within these sound waves were also flashing golden runes.

Each rune contained the breath of the Great Dao, a powerful strength that seemed as if it could annihilate everything. This was the special talent of the coiling ridge giant race!

“This is bad!”

Lin Ming was panic-stricken. There were already far too many coiling ridge giants and above that, the old worshipping giant was incomparably formidable!

Luckily, Lin Ming had already achieved a mind state of one with Primordius Heavenly Palace. In this grave and critical moment, countless magic patterns appeared, combining with the surrounding grandmist energy to form layers of defensive barriers.

Rumble! Rumble! Rumble!

The layers of defensive barriers were crushed and torn apart by those strange golden runes. Finally, when the attack reached Primordius Heavenly Palace, it caused the entire palace to violently shake! After all, Lin Ming was weaker than a Great World King and he wasn't able to reach the standards of an Empyrean managing Primordius Heavenly Palace. To persist against a barrage of attacks from these coiling ridge giants that weren't much weaker than low level God Beasts was extremely difficult.

As the old giant was gathering the other coiling ridge giants to attack once more, Lin Ming controlled Primordius Heavenly Palace and dove deep into the endless black abyss along with the giant's

corpse.

The shrunken Primordius Heavenly Palace was sheltered by the corpse. The old giant was only able to roar out several times in vain, and in the end it could only watch blankly on, not daring to do anything else.

It was unknown how long they fell downwards into the abyss. It seemed as if ten days and ten nights had passed.

Lin Ming only felt that Primordius Heavenly Palace was pushed downwards by some massive impact force. At first all he could see around him was the endlessly falling water, but later his surroundings were only the endless dark.

It was like halfway down, the massive deluge of water had rushed into some other channel.

After another long period of time, there was a massive explosive sound. The entirety of Primordius Heavenly Palace finally struck the ground, causing a giant detonation.

Fortunately, Lin Ming and Xiao Moxian were already prepared. Their bodies were surrounded by layers of grandmist energy and the power of god runes.

Even with all these preparations, their defenses were still crushed beneath the powerful impact force. Lin Ming felt as if all the bones in his body were shaken up.

“Eh? What is this?”

As Lin Ming crawled out from Primordius Heavenly Palace, he could feel an exceptionally terrifying aura rush towards him from all directions.

There was the yin death energy, tyrannical fire energy, arctic ice energy, and even a vast and massive power of water...

He had actually arrived in an incomprehensibly large and mystifying valley.

One side of the valley burned with an inferno of raging flames. Giant skeletons lay within these fires.

Another side was covered with 10,000 year ice. Colossal icicles rose into the air, each one encapsulating a corpse – the corpse of a coiling ridge giant.

All throughout other areas of the valley, there were scattered corpses of coiling ridge giants, their bodies still weakly shimmering with golden runes.

And beneath their feet, they could clearly feel the turbulent waters rushing about.

“This is... Ying Yang Despair Valley, Forsaken Mortal Tomb?” Xiao Moxian’s eyes popped open as she took in the scenes around her, her mind incomparably shocked.

“Be careful!” Lin Ming suddenly felt a strength sweep towards Xiao Moxian.

This strength rushed out from the flaming mountain peaks on one side of the valley. It hurtled towards Xiao Moxian as if it had a mind of its own.

After stepping into the late Divine Lord realm, Xiao Moxian’s strength was beyond ordinary. With Lin Ming’s warning, jet black flames began igniting all over her body.

The flames turned into a black fire phoenix that collided with those mountain flames.

“Mm?” Xiao Moxian originally thought she could annihilate those flames with one strike. However, she never imagined that after those flames struck her own pitch black nirvanic flames, they would be equally matched and dissipate together.

Lin Ming couldn’t help but feel some dread. Xiao Moxian’s strike right now was one that even a World King would have to spend some effort to deal with and yet it had only managed to put those flames out. If those flames had really struck Xiao Moxian, then she

would have been injured.

“Big Brother Lin, this is hellfire!” Xiao Moxian was a specialist of fire. She was able to sense the strangeness of those flames just now.

This sort of flame was naturally bred by the energy of the heavens and earth and signaled the presence of a Fire Elemental. If this were several dozen years ago, this sort of fire would have been greatly beneficial to Lin Ming!

But now, this hellfire wasn't too useful to him. Still, its presence proved that Yin Yang Despair Valley was overflowing with energy. This meant that it would be greatly advantageous to Lin Ming for refining the Ravenous Wolf Heaven Pill!

Lin Ming closed his eyes and cast out his sense. In this mystic realm he could feel a powerful atmosphere of Laws – this was the Asura Heavenly Dao!

Chapter 1659 – Void Furnace

The Asura Heavenly Dao was spread throughout the entire Asura Road; this was the same in every single mystic realm.

After all, the Asura Road was created by the Asura Road Master. Although it was unknown how Yin Yang Despair Valley was formed, it should still be linked to the Asura Road Master.

“Let’s go...”

Lin Ming drew Xiao Moxian close and began moving forwards with her.

Lin Ming could clearly feel fluctuations from the wild space distortions all around.

It was obvious that the space here wasn’t stable.

According to the information he obtained from Heaven’s Secret Pavilion, the location of Yin Yang Despair Valley would constantly change within the Great Desolate, and the price to find out this information was considerably high. It seemed that this information wasn’t false at all...

However, this sort of danger zone was especially advantageous in helping Lin Ming refine the Ravenous Wolf Heaven Pill.

Of the Nine Stars of the Dao Palace, every Dao Palace represented a different true meaning of the universe, a different mystery.

The Ravenous Wolf Star corresponded with the Heavenly Retribution Dao Palace. It was strange and cryptic, and of the nine Dao Palaces it could be said to represent the most elusive and nimble true meaning.

Heavenly Retribution – this referred to the power of the world. After a martial artist opened the Heavenly Retribution Dao Palace they could rely on it to commune with the heavens and earth, integrating the power of the world into their mortal body and

obtaining a terrifying strength, one that could annihilate all their enemies!

Opening the Heavenly Retribution Dao Palace required tremendous momentum from the world itself. Only a suitable danger zone could provide them with the chance to succeed.

Lin Ming wasn't in a hurry. He slowly scattered his sense outwards to find a place in Yin Yang Despair Valley that had a rich world strength so he could refine the Ravenous Wolf Heaven Pill there.

After finishing his plans, Lin Ming and Xiao Moxian walked together towards their destination.

Along the way there were many dangerous areas filled with space-time fissures. In addition, there were the dreadful surging flows of energy within the mystic realm. These turbulent flows of energy were similar to the hellfire that had rushed Xiao Moxian.

However, these flows of raging energy all followed the Asura Heavenly Dao. With this, it wasn't difficult for Lin Ming and Xiao Moxian to avoid them.

They carefully arrived at the place that was rich with energy.

If the energy flows within Yin Yang Despair Valley were compared to a storm, then this place would be the eye of the storm. Although all sorts of world energies flooded the surrounding space, this place was actually extremely calm and most suited for refining a pill.

But just in case, Lin Ming still laid down protective array formations to prepare for all contingencies.

After finishing this, Lin Ming put forth a divine runic table and a variety of rare and precious materials. After laboring over the Ravenous Wolf Heaven Pill for so many years he was finally going to start refining it. Lin Ming was certainly thrilled by this prospect, but his movements were still orderly and calm, not

hurried at all.

These were the habits that Lin Ming had picked up over the years by drawing the improved Heavenly Fire Symbols and Heretical God Symbols.

He needed to perfectly organize every detail in this process. Only this perfection would allow him to impact the Heavenly Retribution Dao Palace.

His fingers cut a line through the void, drawing a wisp of heavenly tribulation fire towards it. He drew a curved path in the air.

Lin Ming's hands seemed to fly. One at a time, strange energy patterns began to appear, condensing into all sorts of tiny runes.

Xiao Moxian stood on the side blinking, puzzled by this. "Big Brother Lin, aren't you going to refine the Ravenous Wolf Heaven Pill? How come you are suddenly drawing up a divine runic symbol?"

"I have to refine the improved medicinal runic symbol first."

Lin Ming lightly said. During the years in Tragic Death Valley he had used a full year to thoroughly research an appropriate medicinal runic symbol. This medicinal runic symbol was chosen after being checked for a number of criteria and would be the best one possible for supporting the Ravenous Wolf Heaven Pill.

Without this medicinal runic symbol, the Ravenous Wolf Heaven Pill that Lin Ming refined would have much weaker effects.

As Lin Ming spoke, the speed of his movements hastened. The movements of his hands in the air began to leave behind afterimages, as quick as lightning.

In Tragic Death Valley, Lin Ming had long accustomed himself with this medicinal runic symbol and had drawn up many test copies. But, to allow the medicinal runic symbol's medicinal efficacy to reach the highest possible limit and also match the

properties of the Ravenous Wolf Heaven Pill, he needed to draw support from the world momentum here.

In those 15 years within Tragic Death Valley, Lin Ming had reached even higher heights in drawing up a medicinal runic symbol. Now, all of that accumulated practice would finally reveal itself.

In addition with the memories of the three divine runic masters he had absorbed, this tremendous background allowed him to come up with many useful and fresh new ideas.

Moreover, this environment and the faint Asura Heavenly Dao Laws here would help Lin Ming a great deal.

He silently drew runes of the Asura Heavenly Dao towards the tiny runes, constantly transforming the medicinal runic symbol, allowing it to become far more complex and powerful.

Finally, after three days and three nights passed, strange and mysterious patterns appeared in the void where they were drawn by Lin Ming's finger into the tiny runes.

In the blink of an eye, a brilliantly marvelous reaction occurred. A shimmering light bloomed like a lotus flower and all of the runes began to gather together, forming a divine runic symbol that appeared like a snow-white flower petal.

This divine runic symbol emitted a strange fluctuation of energy. Lin Ming finally relaxed, at last able to take a breath of relief. Then he carefully grasped the divine runic symbol – the improved medicinal runic symbol was finally complete. Within this divine runic symbol were the Laws of the Asura Heavenly Dao that existed in the surrounding environment. They were much purer than the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws that Lin Ming had comprehended.

Then, Lin Ming sat down on the ground, entering a deep meditation just like a monk. The reason he came here was to

borrow the world momentum of this danger zone to help refine the Ravenous Wolf Heaven Pill and attack the Heavenly Retribution Dao Palace.

And the power of the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws here could also be used by Lin Ming.

Lin Ming's thoughts raced. He began to analyze Yin Yang Despair Valley in his mind, combining all of the various powers here, including even the strange space distortions.

However, there was one thing Lin Ming understood above all. Everything in the world of the Asura Road had to conform to the basics of the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws.

It could be said that the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws were the true ruler of the world.

Lin Ming's fingers continuously calculated. An unusual strength flowed out from his body, causing the surrounding waves of power to react and wash towards him.

Gradually, strands of flame... white clouds filled with ice... distorted space ripples... thick black death energy...

All of these strengths began to gather towards Lin Ming with him as the center.

In this situation, Lin Ming meditated for a day and a night. He adjusted his condition to its peak state, restoring all of the soul force he used to refine the medicinal runic symbol.

At this time, Lin Ming's eyes flashed open and a brilliant light cut through his pupils like a bolt of lightning in the dark skies. Lin Ming's finger slightly quivered, each quiver causing a tiny trace of the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws to appear.

At his side, the Asura Heavenly Dao Law patterns were marking the space around him!

He took out the heaven devouring snake gallbladder, jade dragon

horn, and other transcendent materials form his spatial ring.

These materials, beneath the galvanizing world momentum here, manifested phantoms of dragons and snakes that twined together in the skies.

Lin Ming used the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws as the furnace and quickened the world momentum within Yin Yang Despair Valley as the fire to refine to the Ravenous Wolf Heaven Pill.

The power of elusive and mystical Laws constantly fused with the threads of world strength that surrounded the area, beginning to form strange lines in the air.

Within the void, gradually and faintly, the outline of a giant furnace began to appear...

The furnace spun around, emitting waves of strange forces, seeming as if it were attracting all of the power in the surroundings into it.

Countless runes floated around the furnace like sands in the tide. The furnace sparkled with a magical luster.

Without any hesitation, Lin Ming threw the jade dragon horn, heaven devouring snake gallbladder, dragon saliva grass, primal jade quintessence, and the pile of other materials into the air, allowing the swallowing force of the furnace to pull them all in.

The heavenly tribulation flames within his body surged out from his dantian, turning into a giant flame dragon that dove into the void furnace.

At the same time, Xiao Moxian also summoned her jet black nirvanic flames and sent them hurtling towards the furnace. After coordinating with Lin Ming in alchemy for so many years, their thoughts had already become one.

The dragon formed from heavenly tribulation flames and the dark phoenix formed by nirvanic flames soared up together, emitting dreadful waves of flames.

The dense flames split into countless threads of flames that drilled towards the different rare and precious materials.

Fleeting gaze crystals, three-eyed silkworm silk, all of the various materials began to disintegrate within the raging inferno of flames...

Some medicinal materials with a spirituality began to whine with horror and fear. However, the heavenly tribulation flames and nirvanic flames had already fused together. They were both seventh level Concept flames and could even instantly burn down a mountain peak; the strength of these combined flames was beyond terrifying.

As Lin Ming and Xiao Moxian constantly sent their power of fire into the void furnace, more and more materials within it began to melt, sending out all sorts of enchanting fragrances.

By just smelling these medicinal fragrances once, one would feel as if they had taken a bath in the purest water in the world. Their entire body would feel cleansed and comfortable.

At this time, within the blazing flames, the snow white jade dragon horn began to turn deep red.

A dragon spirit suddenly howled and rushed out, hurtling itself towards the dark fire phoenix and fire dragon.

Although the incomplete dragon soul had long disappeared, the dragon spirit's instincts were still able to sense a danger outside that threatened its existence.

With a rumbling strike, Lin Ming and Xiao Moxian felt their bodies shake.

After all, those two flames were released by them and were connected to their divine souls through a mysterious connection.

Although this dragon spirit was nothing but a mindless puppet, it was still a True Dragon. In the impact, the roiling nirvanic flames and heavenly tribulation flames dimmed down a great deal.

Rumble rumble rumble!

The dragon spirit was infuriated. It attacked everything around it with a barrage of attacks, wanting to escape the imprisonment of this furnace.

However, this void furnace was formed by Lin Ming using the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws that existed in Yin Yang Despair Valley as well as by combining it with all sorts of different strengths.

It was an incomparably mysterious phenomenon. Although the jade dragon spirit was forceful and its attacks caused the entire furnace to shake, it still wasn't able to pass through.

Lin Ming furrowed his eyebrows; he had already expected this.

If he wanted to rely on his own strength to refine the many top grade materials here, it would require a massive amount of time and energy. Moreover, it would be profoundly difficult.

But in Yin Yang Despair Valley, it was a completely different situation.

He could rely on the Asura Laws to summon and borrow the momentum of the world and complete the refinement of the Ravenous Wolf Heaven Pill!

Chapter 1660 – Completing the Pill

Lin Ming's mind blazed with numerous calculations. He thrust out a finger and drew it through the void furnace, immediately causing lines of the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws to shine.

The skies above Yin Yang Despair Valley began to violently billow. A massive burst of death energy exploded in the skies and was dragged downwards like a black inverted mountain peak.

Bang!

The jade dragon spirit just happened to be raging in the air above the void furnace. But then, it was suddenly struck by the immense amounts of death energy.

All of it crashed into the jade dragon horn.

At this time, a cruel and brutal aura erupted forth from the heaven devouring snake gallbladder.

A 100 foot long snake manifested in the air, biting towards that death energy and even managing to bite in in half!

Then, the dragon spirit aura within the dragon saliva grass also awoke from its deep unconsciousness. Even the primal jade quintessence began to emit a misty earth brown color. These energies surged out in all directions as if they wanted to desperately crush apart the void furnace and blow it away.

Every impact caused a terrifying shockwave to roll outwards.

The void furnace was formed from countless threads of the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws that had been bound together. But as these wild strengths surged within it, they caused the void furnace to constantly inflate like a balloon.

After the Asura Heavenly Dao Law lines absorbed all of these different strengths and continued to expand, they retained their shape without any sign that they would crack apart.

Lin Ming calmly smashed his palm into the ground.

Bang! A massive hole appeared in the ground and a flow of chaotic earth brown air streamed out.

As this brown energy flow streamed out, anything that it touched was invaded with the power of earth. This was actually the purest form of the power of earth – Earth Pith!

Earth Piths were similar to Fire Elementals and Thunder Sources – they were a marvelous strength bred from deep in the earth. Earth Piths contained the purest and thickest earth essence energy. They were normally hidden hundreds of millions or billions of miles in the ground, perhaps only existing in the deepest depths of magma pools. They were extremely hard to detect.

But because Lin Ming had a deep understanding of the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws, he could rely on the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws to borrow every source of strength within Yin Yang Despair Valley.

As soon as he sensed the Earth Pith hiding deep in the ground below him, he had summoned it, guiding it to the surface.

His fingers drew ghostly lines in the void that corresponded with the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws, as if he were building a bridge.

The Earth Pith was slowly drawn upwards, slowly climbing this bridge and entering the void furnace.

In the midst of those several wildly raging spiritual strengths, the pure Earth Pith was like a black profound turtle, filled with great strength and stability, carrying with it an indomitable aura that mercilessly suppressed those strengths!

With a loud rumbling sound, the snake spirit from the heaven devouring snake gallbladder, the dragon spirit aura from the dragon saliva grass, and the spiritual strength from the primal jade quintessence were suddenly struck by this power that came from deep underground.

They were like sharp spears smashing into an indestructible

shield.

The Earth Pith was bitten by the snake spirit and dragon spirit to no avail and even the spiritual strength began to wither away.

Slowly, the dragon spirit and snake spirit began to erode. The earth brown luster was even able to wear at at soul force. The two great spirit bodies were originally filled with vitality and shining with a radiant light, but now they had become dark gray, incomparably weak and bleak.

At this time, a mass of earth brown spiritual power shot up into the skies, crashing into the Earth Pith. The mass of spiritual power opened wide like a massive jaw and bit down on the Earth Pith.

Kacha! Kacha!

That spiritual power was actually eating up that terrifying Earth Pith as if it was a snack.

After 3-4 bites, the earth brown spiritual power rapidly expanded and began crashing around into the sides of the void furnace.

Lin Ming was startled. In order to refine the Ravenous Wolf Heaven Pill a tremendous amount of top grade materials were required, and now these materials had started a war.

This primal jade quintessence was a spiritual object that had lived in the center of a world for billions of years and was also an earth-attribute sacred spirit. Because of this, it was able to absorb the power of the Earth Pith. If the primal jade quintessence was allowed to expand as it pleased, then even if it wasn't able to break through the imprisonment of the void furnace created by the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws, it would still make refining the pill incomparably hard.

Lin Ming began to murmur a mantra in his mind. Behind him, the phantom of a giant divine tree slowly appeared. As it flickered into existence, the power of thunder and fire heavenly tribulation exploded outwards! A dazzling light erupted like thousands of

rising suns, all of them following the paths of the Heavenly Dao Laws. Without sentiment or pity, these beams of light stabbed into the key points of the primal jade quintessence's spirit.

In this raging sea of thunder and flames, the recently inflated primal jade quintessence began to rapidly diminish in size.

Without hesitation, Lin Ming punched the void, tearing it apart.

The space here was unstable to begin with. With Lin Ming's understanding of the Asura Heavenly Dao, smashing apart space wasn't difficult at all.

A space storm was pulled out by him. The space storm cut a vacuum path in the air as it fired towards the primal jade quintessence within the void furnace.

Cha – cha –

The primal jade quintessence's aura was cut apart like butter in the hot sun.

Death energy, spiritual energy, space storms, Earth Pith strength, Phoenix Blood Spear potential, jet back nirvanic flames...

All of the powers that could be summoned in Yin Yang Despair Valley were pulled into the middle of the void furnace by him.

Not only that, but Lin Ming's hands flickered once more and the air began to shine with the mysterious strength of the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws once more. Using these Law lines in the space, he began to stir up a giant vortex.

No matter what strength it was, everything was pulled into that vortex and into the void furnace. The primal jade quintessence and all the other heavenly materials were ruthlessly suppressed!

All of these different billowing strengths raged around like multi-colored rivers of stars, surging waves in a great sea.

All of the strengths within Yin Yang Despair Valley were pulled in and fused together. Even the coiling ridge giant corpses in the

icy mountain valleys emitted faint traces of death energy that gathered into the vortex.

Bang! Bang! Bang!

This was the equivalent of all the strengths within Yin Yang Despair Valley crushing and grinding down the jade dragon horn's dragon spirit and all of the other spirits of the different heavenly treasures.

The void furnace withstood all of this tyrannical strength, rapidly expanding like a balloon.

Even Xiao Moxian was startled by all of these wild strengths smashing into each other. Like a small bunny hopping away she immediately jumped back 10 miles.

Only Lin Ming still floated in the skies like before, his arms spread wide. All sorts of energy lines wove around him, constantly repairing and supplementing the void furnace, maintaining its strength and supporting its continued revolution.

In the midst of the furnace, the dragon spirit of the jade dragon horn was the first to give up. Its body stiffened and it began to crack apart.

Soon after that, the spirit of the heaven devouring snake gallbladder was swallowed up by the several strengths and broken down, turning into a snake-like fluid.

Dragon saliva grass, primal jade quintessence...beneath the crashing waves of strength, they were like pills being crushed in a mortar by a medicine pestle, continuously cracking apart into different essences.

Beneath nirvanic flames and heavenly tribulation flames, these essences were catalyzed by the other spiritual forces and began to fuse together.

Red, white, blue...multi-colored hues of liquid were smelting together, constantly attacking each other and wearing each other

down...

Lin Ming sat in meditation, his eyes shut even as his hands carefully manipulated the powers floating above him, turning them all into flames.

These flames were not true burning flames, but virtual flames formed from energy. This strength constantly flowed out from all over Yin Yang Despair Valley. Some flames were heated like fiery flames, some were ghostly and ethereal, and some emitted a dreadful aura. All of these flames entered the void furnace and helped in melting the materials within.

Placed in the midst of all these energies, although Lin Ming was only refining a pill, he still had strength constantly flowing into him as if he were immersed in a sea of energy.

His entire body felt comfortable. No matter how many tough calculations he had to make or how many Asura Heavenly Dao Law lines he had to manipulate, or how much soul force he had to use, he didn't feel tired at all.

This entire Yin Yang Despair Valley had existed here for billions of years already. The strength saved up in this land was alarming.

Lin Ming stayed in this state for a full three years. During this entire time he didn't feel as if the powers in Yin Yang Despair Valley diminished even the slightest bit.

As for the void furnace, all of the strengths that were pulled there by Lin Ming had turned into ghostly azure colored flames – this was a phenomenon that only occurred once flames reached an extremely terrifying temperature.

A great deal of the materials and medicinal essences inside began to slowly absorb these different strengths. Within the center of this endless medicinal efficacy, a life seemed to be forming within it. This existence was blood red and brimming over with an atmosphere of intense life vitality.

Lin Ming knew that the Ravenous Wolf Heaven Pill was soon about to condense!

After another month, the last drop of liquid fused into the middle of the breeding existence.

An incomprehensibly powerful surge of energy washed out, one that shocked even Lin Ming. This was something that spread out from the breeding existence in the void furnace.

Lin Ming's eyes shot up. A brilliant light exploded in his eyes like a bolt of lightning in the dark.

A snow white runic symbol, the medicinal runic symbol, was thrust into the breeding object.

The object began to give off a blazing heat. Blinding arcs of light shot out from its surface...

Finally, with the sound of cracking glass, a blood red pill appeared within the void furnace, one the size of a heart.

As this pill appeared, dao pattern energy currents appeared around it, making it appear supernatural and strange.

The blood red medicinal fragrance turned into liquid. As the pill floated in this liquid, it exuded an inexplicably formidable pressure.

The pill began to throb like a beating heart, as loud as rumbling thunder.

It was like it wasn't a pill but the heart of a True Divinity.

Lin Ming was ecstatic with joy. This was the Ravenous Wolf Heaven Pill, the Ravenous Wolf Heaven Pill! He had finally succeeded!

Suddenly, the Ravenous Wolf Heaven Pill started to rush about in all directions, wanting to escape from the void furnace.

Lin Ming was surprised. After the medicinal efficacy had been refined to the limit, the pill had gained a wisdom of its own and

wanted to escape. Some pills, after escaping, could even cultivate into a spiritual being!

This sort of situation appeared because Lin Ming the materials Lin Ming used to refine the Ravenous Wolf Heaven Pill were extremely precious. Moreover, the improved medicinal runic symbol had increased the medicinal efficacy of the pill.

Lin Ming's thoughts stirred. The entire void furnace began to shrink and compress in on itself. Within it, all of the massive flames formed from strengths of Yin Yang Despair Valley also condensed. Underneath Lin Ming's control, they constantly poured into the Asura Heavenly Dao Law patterns that formed the furnace.

Immediately, because the void furnace was fused with infinite strength, it began to sparkle with a brilliant light.

Every single wisp of the Asura Heavenly Dao Law lines was filled with an incomparably vast energy!

As for the Ravenous Wolf Heaven Pill, it was tightly shackled by this tremendous energy!

Chapter 1661 - Forsaken Mortal Tomb

Lin Ming's fingers swiftly flew through the void, continuously leaving behind shining lines of the Asura Heavenly Dao. These lines fell down in a raging storm like a rain of endless needles.

The many lines immediately marked themselves on the heart-like Ravenous Wolf Heaven Pill.

The instant that the Ravenous Wolf Heaven Pill was marked by the runes, Lin Ming could feel it fiercely struggle. It was like a vicious lion wildly thrashing about; this was the pill spirit that developed within the Ravenous Wolf Heaven Pill.

The pill spirit of the Ravenous Wolf Heaven Pill was cunning and swift like the Ravenous Wolf Star itself. It was cruel and strange. Facing this pill spirit, Lin Ming's complexion was indifferent. His fingers flashed and the lines of the array formation pierced through the pill spirit!

The pill spirit's struggle became more intense and its faint pitiful wails filled the air. The pill beat like a heart yet issued screams; it was extremely ghostly and demonic!

After a quarter hour the pill slowly stopped struggling. Like this, the Ravenous Wolf Heaven Pill's spirit was erased by Lin Ming.

The Ravenous Wolf Heaven Pill's pill spirit was sly and deceitful; it would not be willing to be swallowed. When Lin Ming was making his breakthrough he would be at his weakest point and if he swallowed the Ravenous Wolf Heaven Pill at this moment he might suffer a backlash from the pill spirit. This would definitely cause a great deal of trouble so erasing it was the best solution.

Lin Ming tentatively picked up the Ravenous Wolf Heaven Pill. As he felt the oppressive strength within it, one that seemed as if it could crush anyone to pieces, his heart filled with joy and satisfaction.

Xiao Moxian was also happy. When she broke through the late Divine Lord realm her senses had become even sharper and she was able to keenly feel the explosive strength contained within the Ravenous Wolf Heaven Pill.

“This thing... Big Brother Lin, do you plan on directly swallowing it like this?” Xiao Moxian licked her lips. At the start she had been thinking that Lin Ming would hurry up and absorb the Ravenous Wolf Heaven Pill. But now as she felt that unimaginably dense energy within it, her heart began to race.

The Ravenous Wolf Heaven Pill was evil and cruel. If Lin Ming swallowed it directly, would he be able to withstand it?

“I must swallow it, but if I do, I’m afraid my body won’t be able to withstand it. The world momentum in Yin Yang Despair Valley is lacking. We must find the Forsaken Mortal Tomb and use the world momentum there to suppress the strength of the Ravenous Wolf Heaven Pill and attack the Heavenly Retribution Dao Palace!” Lin Ming’s complexion was solemn. His eyes began to sweep over the entirety of Yin Yang Despair Valley.

Looking all around, there were wildly raging currents of fire and thunder, whistling black winds, and even an ice zone that could instantly freeze one’s soul. In Yin Yang Despair Valley, destructive forces flooded the entire land and it was still unknown just how they gathered here.

Lin Ming stepped forwards, searching the valley with Xiao Moxian for any clues on the Forsaken Mortal Tomb.

After searching for some time, they discovered that Yin Yang Despair Valley was a dead end. There was only an entrance and no exit. Moreover, even though this place was far smaller than Lin Ming had first imagined, he still wasn’t able to find any clues on the Forsaken Mortal Tomb.

“Big Brother Lin, is the Forsaken Mortal Tomb really together with Yin Yang Despair Valley? We can’t even find the exit...”

Lin Ming remained silent. His eyes were observing the space in front of him.

The twisting space fluctuations in front of him gave off an extremely strange feeling.

In Yin Yang Despair Valley, the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws were everywhere. Lin Ming rapidly deduced every change in the power of these Laws.

These deductions were like a giant invisible hand that controlled the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws, allowing him to utilize them and explore Yin Yang Despair Valley.

As a result, he discovered that the void in front of him was emitting an ancient and bleak aura.

There was something strange here!

His eyes flashed and the Phoenix Blood Spear shot out, smashing into a node in space.

This node just happened to be the weakest point in space indicated by the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws.

The distorted space, underneath the impact of billions of jins of force, began to collapse, like a giant gate that was caving in on itself.

A distant and ancient atmosphere surged outwards, one that seemed to originate from the dawn of the heavens and earth.

Lin Ming looked around and saw that the inside was misty and filled with spiritual strength. It was a vast world with the horizon stretching past his sight.

Then, he quickly rushed in.

Xiao Moxian followed close behind him, also entering.

“This is...”

As soon as he arrived, Lin Ming was shocked by the scene he saw.

This was truly a separate world and the space node leading outside was faintly recognizable high in the clouds.

He and Xiao Moxian floated high in the air, given a bird's eye view of the breadth and length of this boundless world.

This world seemed to be without end. Just the ground was several hundred miles beneath them!

Looking down, they could see a gray and ancient wilderness stretching to the ends of the skies. Rivers winded through the lands like twisting dragons, surging with strength!

And above this great land were massive shadows that seemed like million foot high mountains.

Lin Ming focused his eyes on these shadows and saw that they were actually incomparably massive black turtles, crawling on the ground like mountains.

Their pointy turtle shells entered high into the clouds, covered in endless fog.

The black turtles emitted a dark aura, one similar to the aura of the Black Dragon Sovereign who lived in the depths of the Eternal Demon Abyss.

These black turtles were absolutely God Beast level divine beings.

“Big Brother Lin, look over there... there are giant coffins on the backs of the turtles...” Xiao Moxian mumbled in shock, her eyes focused far into the distance.

Lin Ming looked over and saw that on the back of every turtle was a massive ancient bronze coffin that towered into the skies, standing tall and firm!

Weng~ Weng~ Weng~

Waves of rich spiritual strength continuously surged out from these ancient bronze coffins, filling the world with energy.

Countless runes followed this flowing spiritual strength, flitting

through the skies like rivers of stars.

Seeing these ancient coffins, Lin Ming was panic-stricken. The incalculable aura emanating from them even left him feeling terrified.

These ancient coffins were several miles large in radius, as large as a grand palace. Even if a coiling ridge giant were to lie down in one of these coffins they would only occupy a tiny corner of it.

“This is the Forsaken Mortal Tomb? What is the meaning of the words Forsaken Mortal? Could the people buried within the bronze coffins be those... Forsaken Mortals?”

Lin Ming frowned. In the world of the Asura Road there were far too many legends. This included Tragic Death Valley, the Great Desolate, the Stormy Sea – every land had its own corresponding legends and fables.

There were many variations of these stories. But because these stories had been in existence for far too long, they were no longer credible.

As for the Forsaken Mortal Tomb, legends about this land were very rare. This was probably because when most people entered Yin Yang Despair Valley, they didn't know how to enter the Forsaken Mortal Tomb. Only those who experienced a great stroke of luck would be able to enter this place. As for what the 'Forsaken Mortal' meant, no one was sure.

Some people believed that they were giant servants who fought under the Asura Road Master in the past. There were even some people who believed that these Forsaken Mortals were the ancestors of the coiling ridge giants!

But although the current coiling ridge giants that lived deep in the Great Desolate could be considered a powerful race, they couldn't be compared to the Forsaken Mortals that lived in the ancient past.

The bloodline of the coiling ridge giants had been diluted far too much over time. They were even losing their wisdom and becoming more like vicious beasts.

But even though their intellect had diminished from in the past, their bloodline still held the mark of the ‘Forsaken Mortals’. This was also the reason why they felt a deep sense of fear and awe towards the Forsaken Mortal Tomb and defended the edges of Yin Yang Despair Valley.

Lin Ming’s desire to enter Yin Yang Despair Valley had evoked a maniacal anger from them. Even so, their veneration of this land could not be changed and when Lin Ming had rushed in they could only watch helplessly on without giving chase.

As Lin Ming was lost in thought, he suddenly saw that in the far off distance where the spiritual strength was the strongest and where the end of the land was, there was an even larger black turtle. Its shell stretched for thousands of miles and misty spiritual power gushed out from it like waterfalls, floating all around it in amounts high enough to hide the world in shadows.

This black turtle was over ten times larger than the other black turtles. Its aura had already surpassed the level of a God Beast and nearly reached that of a True Divinity. Even from such a far distance, Lin Ming was finding it hard to face this presence!

“Let’s go!”

Lin Ming and Xiao Moxian flew over to the phantom of the largest black turtle.

As the two flew through the skies they passed many black turtles. In the legends it was said that a black turtle could live for over a billion years and was the longest lived species in the universe. But in this Forsaken Mortal Tomb, without exception, all of these black turtles had turned into bones. Only their grand and colossal shells that rose into the skies seemed to tell of their once brilliant past.

Flying over this graveyard, Lin Ming felt an incomparably sad and dismal aura, one so profound that he nearly lost his mind. In shock, Lin Ming hurriedly revolved the Divine Mist Heart Mantra, only then calming down his racing heart.

Lin Ming turned to glance at Xiao Moxian and discovered that he didn't need to worry about her. Her God Beast physique made it even easier for her to resist this desolate aura within the Forsaken Mortal Tomb.

Lin Ming and Xiao Moxian finally arrived on the back of the largest turtle's shell. This black turtle was so massive that it resembled a planet.

As for the ancient coffin on the black turtle's back, it was also the size of the mountain. The surface of the coffin was covered with mysterious runes that emitted a majestic spiritual light.

Every beam of spiritual light possessed an astonishing amount of energy. Each beam shot into the sky, creating a vacuum in space.

Lin Ming thought for a moment. Then, he lightly swept the Phoenix Blood Spear over a tiny corner of the spiritual light. Even with this tiny movement he still felt his arm shake and go numb. These lights definitely had an impact force of at least 10 billion jins.

The ancient coffins were sealed shut and bound with runes. With Lin Ming's cultivation, wanting to open them was impossible.

"Forsaken Mortals... these are proud children of the heavens from ancient times that are interred in these coffins..." Lin Ming mumbled to himself. But with that, he no longer bothered with these thoughts.

Currently, there was no meaning in dwelling on these thoughts. After all, they were far too remote a matter for him. What was important was what he had to do now – attack the second Dao Palace, the Heavenly Retribution Dao Palace!

Originally, Lin Ming was only making a guess from Torchriver's memories that Forsaken Mortal Tomb would be an ideal place to make a breakthrough. But now that he truly arrived here, he discovered this place was far better than he had anticipated!

There were these incredible and endless black turtles, the unusual ancient bronze coffins that were flush with energy, and most importantly the breath of the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws here that flooded every inch of space, ten times stronger than that of Yin Yang Despair Valley.

With the incredibly strong existence of the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws that were present here, he could draw in all the strength from within the Forsaken Mortal Tomb, using the momentum here to suppress the Ravenous Wolf Star.

Chapter 1662 – Impacting the Heavenly Retribution Dao Palace

Ash gray runes flew forth from Lin Ming's fingers, flying all around him.

Before this breakthrough he had to make his final preparations.

These gray runes were formed from the Asura Sutra's Myriad Demon Karmic Wheel. The demonic death energy within them followed the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws, completely in harmony with the atmosphere in the Forsaken Mortal Tomb.

After all, within the Forsaken Mortal Tomb, besides the power of the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws that occupied every corner of this world, the greatest energy was the dense aura of dead souls.

These runes fell across the sky like scattering stars, creating something that resembled a massive black rune that spanned for 10,000 miles.

Using an entire month, Lin Ming formed a million runes and created a giant array formation. This array formation was meant to protect Lin Ming but also to gather the energy of the world unto his own body.

No matter how formidable the powers within the Forsaken Mortal Tomb were, they had to follow the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws. This allowed Lin Ming the chance to galvanize a portion of this power for his own use.

This time, with Lin Ming as the center, an incomparably large black beam of spiritual strength appeared and spread outwards. This was the Dark Spirit Gathering Array.

In order to impact the Nine Stars of the Dao Palace and use the momentum of the world to help him, he needed to be flexible and adapt to the situation.

Lin Ming observed the Forsaken Mortal Tomb and found that he could use runes of the Myriad Demon Karmic Wheel to form a simple spiritual energy gathering array formation that resonated with the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws.

Rumble rumble rumble

The array formation activated. A pitch black death energy emerged. Countless threads appeared from the array formation like innumerable black hands, beginning to stir up the death energy from the ancient bronze coffins that were millions of miles away. Even the spiritual strength of the Black Turtle God Beasts began to gather towards this focal point.

The strength that Lin Ming was able to summon in this graveyard was only a millionth of the power present here. Even so, this was more than astonishing!

Xiao Moxian was startled as she watched an infinite number of giant black turtle phantoms appear around Lin Ming before fading away.

After a quarter hour of gathering energy, Lin Ming took out the Ravenous Wolf Heaven Pill from his spatial ring and swallowed it into his stomach.

After swallowing the pill, Lin Ming felt as if he had swallowed the sun. He was ready to explode from the energy at any moment.

A boiling strength like lava surged out and into Lin Ming's meridians and bones, wildly racing around and wreaking havoc where it went.

Lin Ming had already opened the Eight Hidden Inner Gates and even formed the Purple Temple Dao Palace. In terms of the intensity of his mortal body, he was dozens of times more formidable than an ancient vicious beast.

Even if a planet were to shatter upon him, his mortal body wouldn't be crushed.

But such a powerful body was actually beginning to crack beneath the power of the Ravenous Wolf Heaven Pill and its galaxy-like strength. His skin, flesh, and bones all shook as if his body would be torn asunder.

His entire body began to expand like a balloon.

At the same time, waves of medicinal efficacy essence broke into every inch of his flesh and blood, making him feel happy and carefree.

He could feel the strength within his body and bones. His skin, meridians, flesh, blood, everything began to transform... evolve...

However, this strength finally fired into nine spots within his body.

These nine spots were like giant vortexes. Mysterious runes appeared within them as the aura of the Great Dao seethed around them.

In Xiao Moxian's vision, she could see these nine spots on Lin Ming's body begin to shine with a blood red light that pierced into the heavens.

This blood red light was incredibly intense, piercing through everything it touched. It began to resonate with a strange power in the darkness, summoning it.

Woosh – Woosh – Woosh

Fantastical beams of starlight suddenly fell down from the heavens, wrapping around Lin Ming's body.

Wrapped in this starlight, Lin Ming felt even stronger and more solid.

Once again, he arrived in the pitch black space that belonged to the Nine Stars of the Dao Palace.

In the cold and still air above him, in the center of the universe, there were nine radiant stars shining, smoldering with arcane

power.

These stars exuded a gentle light, one that echoed with the nine spots on Lin Ming's body, instilling within him the strength of stars.

Lin Ming was so comfortable that he nearly groaned. The power of the Ravenous Wolf Heaven Pill surging within him was actually suppressed just a little bit.

However, he didn't lose his mind in this endless glorious starlight. His eyes focused on one specific star.

This star was the Ravenous Wolf Star!

At this time, the Ravenous Wolf Star was undoubtedly the brightest of the nine stars. The strange and ghostly light it exuded echoed with a spot on Lin Ming's body, causing the power of the stars to pour into it.

As this cold and gloomy starlight entered his body, Lin Ming remained vigilant even as he felt his own strength rapidly increasing. It wasn't easy to absorb the starlight of the Ravenous Wolf Star. He had to maintain absolute focus to prevent any sudden changes!

Slowly, Lin Ming's mortal body began to transform. The boundless medicinal efficacy within the Ravenous Wolf Heaven Power turned into strength, allowing Lin Ming's mortal body to reach new heights in strength.

His body began to shine and give off heat. A glittering luster began to emit from his body, as if he were an ancient piece of jade that was finally being shaken and dusted off, exposing the magnificence beneath. From Lin Ming's pores, he began to emit a milk-like medicinal efficacy, faint and hazy.

But at this moment, a harsh shriek spread to Lin Ming's ears. An incomparably powerful aura of spiritual power appeared, seeming as if it were awakening from a deep sleep.

Bang!

The calm medicinal efficacy that was transforming Lin Ming's body suddenly turned wild. The skin on his body ruptured and blood vessels ripped apart as blood spurted out everywhere!

“Mm!?”

Lin Ming stuffily coughed. As he probed his body, he suddenly discovered that the Ravenous Wolf Heaven Pill's pill spirit was being revived beneath the endless starlight of the Ravenous Wolf Star!

It was even possible that the starlight of the Ravenous Wolf Star was purposefully intending to arouse the pill spirit that Lin Ming had erased!

As Lin Ming realized this, his mind shook!

A brilliant light flashed through his pupils like lighting – this was the critical moment as he was suppressing his mortal body in order to attack and absorb the Ravenous Wolf Star. If there was a rebellion within his body then this would be a major catastrophe!

If he were under assault from both within and without, he would definitely explode and perish!

Lin Ming's hands moved and he drew pitch black lines of the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws in the void.

The energy stored within the Dark Spirit Gathering Array began to gush out as it was activated by the traction of the Laws!

Lin Ming had spent a great deal of time and energy to form this array formation that gathered the power of the world, and the reason for that was to prevent this scene from occurring.

With a deep roar, a black turtle-shaped fluctuation of energy leapt out from the Dark Spirit Gathering Array, turning into a beam of black light. With a howl, it pounced towards Lin Ming.

This horrifying flow of energy sparkled as it disappeared into Lin

Ming's body.

Although this was only the aura left behind by a dead God Beast, when this power was condensed by the Dark Spirit Gathering Array, then by borrowing the momentum of the world here it was more than enough to contend with the strength of the Ravenous Wolf Star!

Suddenly, the aura of the black turtle began to wrestle with the Ravenous Wolf Heaven Pill Spirit deep in Lin Ming's body.

One power was beneath Lin Ming's control, wanting to suppress everything. The other power didn't want to be shackled, it wanted to escape into the skies.

Rumble rumble rumble!

In the fierce combat, the Ravenous Wolf Heaven Pill's medicinal efficacy constantly melted away. Lin Ming took this chance to take hold of all this medicinal efficacy and send it into his muscles, flesh, and blood... into every inch of his body.

His muscles were constantly flushed with an incomparably powerful medicinal efficacy. Lin Ming's strength rapidly rose.

At the same time he simultaneously guided the movements of the Asura Heavenly Dao Law lines within the Ravenous Wolf Heaven Pill, squeezing even more medicinal efficacy to leak out.

In the end the balanced Asura Heavenly Dao Laws within the Ravenous Wolf Heaven Pill collapsed. On the outside, the energy of the black turtle attacked it.

Finally, the Ravenous Wolf Heaven Pill turned into waves of liquid medicine that ruthlessly exploded.

The raging sea of medicinal efficacy was like snakes and dragons as it broke into Lin Ming's body, thoroughly fusing with him.

Beneath the tremendous scouring of the medicinal efficacy, every pore of Lin Ming's body began to shine with a brilliant light as his

strength rose to all new levels.

Occasionally, wisps of blood would shoot out from his wounds like bolts of lightning, blinding to the eyes.

The Heretical God Tree also began to grow. It became majestic and dignified, exuding the power of countless runes.

Roar!

As Lin Ming's strength reached the limit, his body seemed to be on the verge of exploding. Then, Lin Ming's head fell back as two beams of substantialized energy shot out from his eyes like black columns that shot into the skies! As this happened, his body rose up from the ground.

His entire body sparked with arcs of electricity. Like a dragon flying through the heavens, he shot towards the most brilliant Ravenous Wolf Star!

The moment that shot up, the ground beneath his feet began to howl as the energy gathered into a focal point. With a cracking sound, the entire array seemed as if it was being crushed like glass!

Then, the Dark Spirit Gathering Array's mission was already complete. All of the strength contained within it merged into Lin Ming's body!

With the momentum from this boost of power, Lin Ming shot up at an unbelievable velocity. His body burst out with a terrifying blood vitality, his entire body igniting with dazzling flames from the high-speed air friction.

Wherever he went, even the void would be twisted like it would shatter at any moment underneath the overwhelming momentum.

As Lin Ming was about to approach the Ravenous Wolf Star, the void around it suddenly filled with the sound of rumbling thunder.

A strange and vast aura appeared in the air.

Lin Ming remained vigilant. Goosebumps rose up from all over

his body. This was his body's instinctual reaction from sensing an inexplicable danger.

Like the last time he impacted the Nine Stars of the Dao Palace, lines of the Great Dao appeared in space, binding together to form a giant dao diagram.

On this dao diagram, all sorts of phantoms appeared. There were galaxies, stars, mountains, rivers, birds, animals, insects, and all the myriad life forms in the universe.

In the middle of every pattern were countless tiny flashing runes.

During this second impact, Lin Ming unhesitatingly exploded towards the dao diagram. His strength surged and his blood vitality billowed around him. His fist flashed out in a series of strikes that created sonic booms that echoed like peals of thunder.

Now that the Ravenous Wolf Heaven Pill had tempered his mortal body, filling it with infinite strength, he was brimming with confidence.

Bang!

His mortal body trampled through the void as his speed increased yet again. His fist that seemed as if it could destroy everything suddenly arrived before the dao diagram.

This dao diagram represented the will of the Heavenly Dao. Every flashing rune within it had infinite variations, each variation possessing a wisp of the Laws.

This was a strength able to suppress all the strength in the world.

Lin Ming's fist carried with it an indomitable momentum as it came heavily crashing down!

Chapter 1663 – Breaking the Dao Diagram

The dao diagram in the sky possessed the infinite charm of the Great Dao. As Lin Ming was about to smash into it, the dao diagram emitted a gentle light that shrouded over him.

Lin Ming's current blood vitality was boiling over, but as he was covered by this white light he felt as if all his memories had been seen. It was a strange and uncomfortable feeling.

In the blink of an eye the dao diagram became even larger. In the surface of the dao diagram a black hole appeared, and from this black hole a crystal smooth hand shot out, welcoming Lin Ming's fist without any feeling.

Bang!

As his fist struck this palm, a metallic grating noise sounded out and a brilliantly wild fluctuation of energy erupted.

It was like two stars colliding with each other. Fierce shockwaves spread out from the impact, stirring up a savage tornado of energy.

In the rumbling chaos, the billions and trillions of runes on the dao diagram rapidly dimmed.

“Mm!?” Lin Ming was shocked. Could this crystal smooth hand have been formed from the dao diagram? Strange... how could he feel as if he had met this presence before?

At this time, the dao diagram twisted and a hazy form emerged from the center of it. This person wore a light gauzy dress and her body was filled with endless grace and charm. Her eyes seemed to contain galaxies, her vision able to extinguish all life and see through all lies.

As this person fully emerged from the dao diagram, Lin Ming revealed an expression of utter shock. How could it be her!?

The person that came from this dao diagram was the Divine

Realm's Empyrean Divine Dream!

As he was stunned, the dao diagram distorted again. Lin Ming felt a strange occurrence in the space behind him.

But by the time he discovered this it was already too late.

A fist wrapped in a familiar power solidly pounded into Lin Ming's back.

This strength was vast and limitless, billowing like waves and causing the space behind him to be torn to shreds.

This impact strength was as violent and brutal as a star. Unexpectedly dense grandmist energy drilled into his body like countless titanic dragons.

Everywhere it went, Lin Ming's body would crack apart with blood flying everywhere.

In that time, the drops of blood that shot from his body floated in space like rubies. They seemed to breathe with a mind of their own, emanating a dim power.

“Grandmist energy, Grandmist Laws... could it be?”

Lin Ming had been severely injured. His mind raced as he rapidly opened the grandmist space to protect his body. The star-heavy grandmist space formed a wall around him, protecting him and also counterbalancing that terrifying strength that sneak attacked him.

Although Lin Ming already had his guesses, as he truly looked at the person who had ambushed him, he was still left panic-stricken.

The person who sneak attacked him was a tall middle-aged man. He wore black battle armor designed like a dragon king. The battle armor covered his entire body and his face was shrouded, hidden from sight. His mortal body contained a strength that far outstripped Lin Ming and a heavy grandmist energy lingered around his body. Just from standing there this person resembled

an undefeatable war god!

In just one glance, a name floated in Lin Ming's mind – Empyrean Primordius!

Although he hadn't seen Empyrean Primordius before, he could still confirm that the person who sneak attacked him had the same aura and shape as Empyrean Primordius!

“Empyrean Primordius!?”

Seeing Empyrean Primordius, Lin Ming was shocked, but then he slowly calmed down, his complexion turning even colder. His eyes flashed with a brilliant light. He thought out loud, “What a good Ravenous Wolf Star! I was going to absorb you into my body to open the Heavenly Retribution Dao Palace with the power of your starlight, but to think you would attempt to revolt against me!”

Lin Ming's thoughts stirred and all of his blood vitality began to boil. Energy from the Purple Temple Dao Palace crazily revolved and the power of a True Dragon gushed forth from his form. Lin Ming's cracked and wounded body began to slowly regenerate.

From the time that Lin Ming approached the dao diagram and punched it, to the appearance of two Empyreans and Empyrean Primordius even severely wounding him, all of this had happened in a fleeting moment, as quick as a bolt of lightning.

However, Lin Ming understood that no matter what, it was impossible for Empyrean Divine Dream or Empyrean Primordius to appear here. One was in the Divine Realm and it was unknown whether or not the other was alive, so how could they appear in the Forsaken Mortal Tomb? Moreover, with Empyrean Primordius and Empyrean Divine Dream's strength, if they wanted to kill him all they needed to do was wave their hand and he would suffer a cruel and miserable death. Why would they need to punch him hard enough to only crack his flesh open?

After careful observation, Lin Ming could clearly feel that these

two great 'Empyreans' were filled with blood vitality, their auras were exactly as Lin Ming had remembered, and even their appearances seemed the same, the truth was that they lacked the world dominating aura of a true Empyrean!

Not just that, but Lin Ming discovered that faint traces of the Laws wrapped around the bodies of these two 'Empyreans', Laws that gave off the aura of the Great Dao.

Without a doubt, these two Empyreans were nothing but phantoms. When Lin Ming recalled that strange light that enveloped him earlier, he could confirm that the sly and resourceful Ravenous Wolf Star had used the Heavenly Dao Laws here to reproduce images of these Empyreans as well as certain characteristics of their strength, all in order to threaten him. After all, in Lin Ming's mind, whether it was Empyrean Divine Dream or Empyrean Primordius, he felt nothing but the deepest sense of respect and awe towards them.

These two extreme Empyrean characters were both leaders of humanity!

This Ravenous Wolf Star was proficient in attacking the heart and mind. Although this illusion attack seemed easy to break through, when that white light had absorbed Lin Ming's memories it was enough to affect his spiritual sea. If it weren't for Lin Ming having cultivated the Divine Mist Heart Mantra and his soul force being incomparably powerful, then even if he knew that these two Empyreans couldn't appear here he still wouldn't have been able to realize they were simulations created by the Ravenous Wolf Star.

At that time, Lin Ming would have to fight against these two leaders of humanity that he revered and respected, and during this battle he wouldn't be able to display his true combat strength.

After being alerted, Lin Ming became even more vigilant, Because of the severe attack he had received, his mortal body had cracked and he had lost a great deal of blood energy. Afterwards, when he

had galvanized the power of a dragon to regenerate, this had caused him to use up a part of the energy he had saved in himself.

Without having established the Heavenly Retribution Dao Palace, without having shattered the Ravenous Wolf Star's dao diagram, it was absolutely not good news for him to use up so much strength.

This Ravenous Wolf Star was cunning and tricky. If Lin Ming wanted to absorb it into the corresponding Dao Palace within his body, it wouldn't be simple at all.

After a brief moment of thought, he traced his spatial ring. A round and plain pill appeared in Lin Ming's hand.

This pill was the nameless ancient pill that Lin Ming had obtained at the Divine Rune City Auction!

Lin Ming had spent a billion points to purchase this ancient pill. It was a transcendent divine level pill.

Lin Ming didn't directly swallow this ancient pill. After all, the power contained within this ancient pill was unfathomably great. If he were to swallow it now, he wouldn't be able to suppress its strength. The Ravenous Wolf Star definitely wouldn't miss this chance to attack him.

Lin Ming only held the nameless ancient pill and used his divine soul to draw out the energy from the ancient pill. He absorbed the essence of the pill into his body through his acupoints.

The pure and vibrant power of the ancient pill continuously flowed into his body. His body that had just been severely wounded began to be nourished and revitalized.

But at the same time, how could the Ravenous Wolf Star give Lin Ming the chance to recover? The phantoms of the two Emphyreans rushed together at the same time, revolving the Grandmist Laws and Divine Dream Laws that Lin Ming remembered. Their powers came shrouding down from the skies, overwhelming!

Facing the attacks of these two Emphyreans, Lin Ming didn't draw

back. Although he knew these two Empyreans were fakes, he had no intention of battling them. His only goal here was the Ravenous Wolf Star; there was no meaning in fighting these two phantoms that the Ravenous Wolf Star condensed with Laws!

Lin Ming summoned Primordius Heavenly Palace.

Then, he flew inside!

Bang!

With a loud explosion, the protective array formations around Primordius Heavenly Palace wildly shook. The attacks of the two Empyreans all fell onto Primordius Heavenly Palace!

And placed within Primordius Heavenly Palace, Lin Ming opened the Heretical God Force. A raging strength suddenly broke out from his inner world.

With this strength and with the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws, he began to galvanize the powers within the Forsaken Mortal Tomb once more! The black turtle energy that filled the air and the remaining residual wills from the ancient bronze coffins were all dragged towards him.

Whether it was the black turtles or the Forsaken Mortals, they were all existences from billions of years ago that were stronger than Empyreans.

The leaders amongst them could even compare with True Divinities!

In a moment, chaos occurred around him as phantoms appeared, enough to blot out the skies. There were blurry phantoms of black turtles and forsaken mortals, all of them shimmering into existence around Primordius Heavenly Palace. These phantoms immediately surrounded the Empyrean Divine Dream and Empyrean Primordius which the Ravenous Wolf Star had reproduced with the Heavenly Dao Laws.

By drawing upon the momentum of the world within the

Forsaken Mortal Tomb, Lin Ming was trying to preserve as much of his own strength as possible to absorb the cunning Ravenous Wolf Star. As for these two Empyrean phantoms, using the momentum of the world to suppress them was more than enough.

Of the black turtle death energy and residual will of the Forsaken Mortals, even if Lin Ming was only able to borrow a millionth of this strength, it was still an incomparably terrifying power. This power was condensed by the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws where they immediately clashed with the Ravenous Wolf Star's Heavenly Dao Laws.

Bang! Bang! Bang! The surroundings began to shake as even the void was being torn to shreds.

The moment that the Empyrean phantoms were suppressed by the momentum of the world, Lin Ming stepped out of Primordius Heavenly Palace. He faced the dao diagram in the skies, fiercely grasped the Phoenix Blood Spear, and then hurtled himself upwards.

The black turtle death energy and the indestructible and mysterious strength within the ancient bronze coffins were slowly pulled upwards by the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws where they gathered upon the Phoenix Blood Spear.

Gradually, the Phoenix Blood Spear shined with an even more brilliant light. It was like a blood phoenix spreading its wings, soaring to the ends of time.

In that moment, Lin Ming seemed to hold a sun in his hands. The Phoenix Blood Spear pierced into the skies!

Within a spark of time, the Phoenix Blood Spear was thrust out innumerable times. Each spear strike was able to tear open the void and cut apart planets.

The Phoenix Blood Spear howled in this crazy dance. It was like innumerable fire phoenixes hurtling forwards without end.

Countless runes of raging flames swept up in a tornado.

Lin Ming's blood heated up as if it were burning. The tangled power formed fire red runes that covered his entire body.

As all of the spear potential gathered together, it violently struck a single point on the dao diagram. Lin Ming's bodily strength also erupted to its limits.

Kacha!

With a wild bang, a brilliantly dazzling divine light flashed out. Countless golden fragments went flying into the air. This massive dao diagram had been shattered by Lin Ming's all-out spear attack!

Chapter 1664 – Receiving the Ravenous Wolf

Ka ka ka!

The skies were shattered by Lin Ming and a terrifying explosive sound tore through space. The moment that Lin Ming broke the nine star dao diagram, a surging force came gushing out from it like a thick purple python that rumbled into Lin Ming's body.

As this strength entered Lin Ming's body, it was like withered grasslands in a spell of drought finally receiving rainwater. In an instant, the massive blood vitality that he had used up was suddenly refilled by this strength. At the same time, a strange rhythm plunged into Lin Ming's body, causing the runes that marked his flesh and bones to shine.

But at this moment, in the battle between the endless black turtle death energy and the golden giants formed from the residual will and spiritual strength of the ancient bronze coffins, as they were fighting against the phantoms of Empyrean Divine Dream and Empyrean Primordius, that battle finally came to a conclusion.

After all, the phantoms of Empyrean Primordius and Empyrean Divine Dream were only simulations created by the Heavenly Dao Laws; how could their strength be compared to true Empyreans?

The two phantom Empyreans were finally savagely suppressed by the world momentum Lin Ming had borrowed from the black turtles and the ancient bronze coffins.

In instant that the Empyreans phantoms were crushed apart, the Laws that formed them were also shattered.

These Laws belonged to humanity's body transformation system and could be called the Nine Star Heavenly Dao Laws.

From an external appearance, the essence gathering system and body transformation Laws were highly different. The essence gathering system Laws were infinitely complex and diverse

Heavenly Dao runes, but as for body transformation's Nine Star Heavenly Dao Laws, they were like a roiling galaxy of stars. As starlight shined down, monstrous blood energy would cloud out the skies, filled with vibrant vitality!

These Laws appeared to resemble the power of stars.

At this time, the Ravenous Wolf Star above Lin Ming began to shine with an ever brighter light. The shattered half of the Heavenly Dao array diagram fiercely shook as a giant whirlpool of starlight appeared around it, seeming as if it would sweep up all the strength of these Laws back to where they were.

"I don't think so!"

Lin Ming sneered. In order to attack the second Dao Palace he had made preparations for a long time. How could he allow the Nine Star Heavenly Dao array diagram to reabsorb the Laws and restore its strength?

In the brief flash his fingers flew and lines of the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws flew out, creating a giant net.

As this net appeared it began to absorb all of the surrounding spiritual energy, becoming increasingly solid and bright.

The Nine Star Heavenly Dao Laws were one of the Laws of the 33 Heavens. But as for the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws, they did not belong to the 33 Heavens, but were a set of Laws that the Asura Road Master created himself. Even so, the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws were no weaker than the 33 Heaven Laws. After all, the Asura Road that was supported by the Asura Laws could stand on par with the 33 Heavens.

The Asura Heavenly Dao instantly stopped the vortex that was caused by the nine star dao diagram.

Lin Ming was like a flash of electricity as he plunged towards the shattered Nine Star Heavenly Dao Laws. All of the acupoints over his body opened and his mouth spread as he suddenly swallowed in

this starlight.

Xiu –

It was like the galaxy was being sucked in. Lin Ming was pulling in the surroundings so hard that even space distorted. The absorption force was incredible.

Immediately, the pure power of the Nine Star Heavenly Dao Laws was continuously swallowed into Lin Ming's body.

Bang –

Lin Ming's inflated body began to crack open once more.

But this time blood didn't shoot out. All that happened was his muscles and blood emitting a brilliant light. Within his body, on his bones, it was like stars had branded him, making him shine with splendor!

The light of these stars held a deep and profound meaning. Behind Lin Ming, phantasmal specks of light wove into a river of stars that poured down behind him like a silver waterfall.

Lin Ming's body was immediately filled with vitality. Waves of blood energy surged within him.

Currently, Lin Ming had yet to open the second Dao Palace. But just by swallowing a little bit of the strength from the Nine Stars Heavenly Dao Laws, this was incomparably better than swallowing spiritual medicines.

As his strength wildly surged upwards, Lin Ming soared through the skies. His body emitted a blinding light as if he were the sun itself.

His body seemed as if it would explode at any moment, but it remained extremely tough and tenacious throughout.

Finally, the True Dragon blood within him shot into the heavens.

The Heretical God Tree appeared behind him, a lifelike image nearly substantialized into reality. It towered high and lofty, a fire

dragon and thunder dragon dancing atop the crown. They were the true meaning of thunder and fire that he had grasped.

Waves of strength radiated out from the pores of his skin, causing ripples to spread through the void and even piercing through space.

When the last of the Heavenly Dao's vitality was swallowed up by Lin Ming, at this time, when he stepped forwards the sound of muffled thunder exploded through space. With another step, he shot upwards once again.

In the blink of an eye, Lin Ming arrived in front of the dao diagram. The Purple Temple Dao Palace opened. He grasped the Phoenix Blood Spear, his strength revolving to the limit as he solidly smashed his spear into the cracked nine star dao diagram!

The cracked nine star dao diagram violently trembled, like an iceberg on the verge of collapse.

Sharp cracks appeared in the dao diagram, followed by a piercing sound. These sound waves condensed into reality, escaping into the real world where they slashed into the earth and left fissures thousands of miles long in the Forsaken Mortal Tomb.

However, on that seemingly limitless dao diagram, a clear crack appeared, a deep ravine hundreds of miles deep.

“Still not enough!”

Lin Ming cried out, thrusting his spear forth once more. The True Dragon blood condensed into the shape of a True Dragon. Following this spear, it clawed towards the dao diagram, throwing itself at the crack.

One strike –

Two strikes –

....

1000 strikes –

...

All of Lin Ming's bodily strength gushed out like an exploding volcano. In an instant, thousands and tens of thousands of spear strikes were thrust out, each spear puncturing the center of the dao diagram's crack, constantly expanding it.

The center of that crack was the epicenter of an earthquake. More and more ruptures spread out for thousands of miles in all directions.

The entire dao diagram violently trembled, emitting loud creaking noises like shattering glass.

Finally, explosive sounds echoed out from Lin Ming's joints, and carrying winds manifested from the dragon energy around him. He hurtled towards the dao diagram.

Traces of the Great Dao and the destroyed bits of starlight were fractured into even smaller spots of luminous light.

Rumble! Rumble! Rumble! The entire dao diagram finally burst apart.

Shimmering starlight leaked out from the cracks of the dao diagram, falling down in raging torrents. Massive pieces of it fell onto Lin Ming's body.

Lin Ming's continuously shining body shined with an even brighter light, like a supernova, blinding to the eyes.

His bodily strength began to climb and climb again.

When the last wisp of starlight was absorbed into his body, Lin Ming was able to summon sounds of wind and thunder by raising his hand. The space around him constantly shook.

With his increasing strength, his confidence also rose.

In that moment, Lin Ming was confident that a punch of his would be able to tear apart the world, crushing all of existence.

Even Xiao Moxian who was watching all of this from below felt

frightened.

Just by seeing Lin Ming's body she felt an inexplicable feeling of dread – this was a dread against a powerful blood vitality that originated from her half God Beast bloodline.

Of course, this was also because Xiao Moxian hadn't undergone enough nirvanas. If Xiao Moxian were to complete nine nirvanas then she could easily achieve a terrifying boundary that surpassed an Empyrean.

Lin Ming stepped in the void and with an explosive sound his figure flashed and disappeared. In an instant, he tore through the void, arriving in front of the glorious Ravenous Wolf Star!

That incomparably massive Ravenous Wolf Star was only the size of a ruler now. It was like the Ravenous Wolf Star had sensed Lin Ming's arrival and had hidden itself in the deep darkness.

But with Lin Ming's profound understanding of the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws, he was able to instantly perceive the Ravenous Wolf Star.

Without looking, he thrust his hands into the void. Instantly, his hands felt as if they were submerged in roiling magma.

What he touched in that moment was the core of the Ravenous Wolf Star.

In that moment, even though his body surged with the power of life, he still felt the unusual aura within the Ravenous Wolf Star.

He directly grasped this star and swallowed it into his body.

Bang!

It was like being submerged into an endless sea filled with violent clouds of thunder, like being dropped in infinite volcanoes, like falling into an impenetrable black hole...

An incomparably powerful aura, one that carried with it boundless majesty and rage, one that caused the heart to race,

suddenly submerged into Lin Ming's body and exploded.

The Ravenous Wolf Star, sly and cunning. At the same time, it also represented the Heavenly Retribution Dao Palace!

This Dao Palace communicated with the world, casting down punishment on behalf of the heavens.

Now, this punishment descended on Lin Ming.

The Heretical God Tree phantom behind Lin Ming was whipped about by violent winds. The dragon phantom formed by the True Dragon blood was torn asunder by the black hole. The heavenly tribulation fire of the seven different true meanings was suffocated by the meaning of deep water of heavenly tribulation...

The runes in his blood and flesh were attracted by the black hole and began to savagely break apart.

Within Lin Ming's body, everything turned chaotic. Even his soul force came under influence. As waves of heavenly retribution struck Lin Ming his blood vitality swelled up.

This was the final meeting on their narrow path and the final revolt of the Ravenous Wolf Star. After coming this far, how could Lin Ming let all his efforts go to waste?

Countless lines of the Asura Heavenly Dao laws were pulled up by Lin Ming's soul force, thrusting into his body and rumbling into the midst of the power of heavenly retribution.

Immediately, these Asura Heavenly Dao Law lines were like a giant net that trapped the beast, stubbornly stopping the final crazy attack of the Ravenous Wolf Star.

Bang! The Ravenous Wolf Star exploded.

Beneath the purest and most glorious starlight, black star-like runes were contained within. They melted into Lin Ming's flesh and blood, fusing together with him.

"This... this is a part of the Heavenly Dao Laws, representing the

power of heavenly retribution, the true meaning of heavenly retribution...”

Lin Ming’s entire body was immersed in pain but also a strange twinge of joyful pleasure.

The Great Dao’s true meaning of heavenly tribulation; this made his soul shiver and his body quake in excitement.

At the same time, the faint traces of pain began to spread throughout his body. This was the mark of the Great Dao entering his body, an impact that even caused pain to his divine soul.

But with the passing of time, all of the power of starlight began to revolve in Lin Ming’s body, forming a mysterious and marvelous Dao Palace.

This Dao Palace had a magnificent hall that shined with a blazing light. Within it, black energy filled the air and cracks of lightning whipped about. There were even waves of horrifying fire, burning so hot it seemed that they could burn down the universe.

This extreme majesty represented the punishment of the Heavenly Dao. It connected together with Lin Ming’s flesh and blood foundation and even his divine soul.

This allowed Lin Ming to feel a powerful aura. All of those black runes in his flesh and blood began to sparkle, resonating with him.

The Heavenly Retribution Dao Palace had finally opened!

Chapter 1665 – Preparation Is the Key to Success

Lin Ming clenched his fists together, a divine light shining in his eyes. In order to break through this Heavenly Retribution Dao Palace, Lin Ming had put forth an unimaginable amount of effort. And now, he had finally succeeded!

As he felt the strength surging in his body, Lin Ming impatiently wanted to fight.

Ever since he left the Marvel Blue Nation he had yet to fight a truly powerful opponent.

Closing his eyes deep in meditation, Lin Ming carefully felt the strength of the Heavenly Retribution Dao Palace.

The first two Dao Palaces of the Nine Stars of the Dao Palace – Heavenly Retribution and Purple Temple.

Of them, the function of the Heavenly Retribution Dao Palace was to use the body of a martial artist as a medium to commune with the heavens and earth.

The body was a microcosm unto itself and could correspond to stars in the universe. In the boundless world, the so-called power of heavenly retribution was ultimately the strength of the Heavenly Dao.

After the Heavenly Retribution Dao Palace opened, a martial artist could use the Heavenly Retribution Dao Palace as a communication medium to allow the body to bear the power of the heavens and earth!

No matter how powerful one's mortal body was, how powerful could it be? Even royal God Beasts could only compare to extreme Emphyreans.

But the power of the heavens and earth was different. Their

power could be described in an infinitely varied number of ways.

For instance, when a star exploded and a black hole was formed, this was a strength that would even suck in an Empyrean and turn them into nothing.

Of course, with Lin Ming's current strength wanting to simulate such a strength was far from possible. He still had a long road ahead of him.

“Power of the heavens and earth...”

Lin Ming gripped his fists, feeling the Heavenly Retribution Dao Palace in his body communing with the heavens and earth, absorbing the surging energy within the world. This sort of feeling was the legendary union with the world.

To have the heavens and earth stand on the same level as the mortal body; when Lin Ming's cultivation reached the peak, fighting with him would be tantamount to fighting against the entirety of the heavens and earth!

When a martial artist's body transformation technique stepped from the Eight Inner Hidden Gates into the Nine Stars of the Dao Palace, the truth was that this was essentially equal to finishing cultivating the mortal body and instead beginning to cultivate the Laws of the Nine Stars.

The Nine Star Laws were one of the 33 Heavenly Dao Laws. If they hadn't been sealed because of some unknown reason, they wouldn't be much worse than the saint race's body transformation technique. They would only be a bit more difficult to cultivate.

The origin of the Heavenly Retribution Dao Palace's strength came not from a martial artist's body but from the momentum of the heavens and earth. Thus, no matter how long a battle was, a martial artist wouldn't overdraw their physical strength. This was one of the reasons why the Nine Stars of the Dao Palace was so formidable!

“Now my body doesn’t need the skills within the Celestial Tyrant Manual to reach 20 billion jins. This is the same as the strength of twin dragons!”

Lin Ming felt that just making gestures with his hand could affect the momentum of the world. Astral essence flooded his body like a surging sea, his supernatural strength gushing like a tide!

Besides being able to draw support from the momentum of the world, Lin Ming’s mortal body had also become far more intense. The Heavenly Dao true meaning of the Heavenly Retribution Dao Palace had fused into his flesh and blood.

His body had become terrifying to an amazing degree and his strength had rapidly risen. As he opened his eyes, purple lightning flashed in his pupils. His current strength and aura were extraordinary.

“Big Brother Lin, did you already break into the Heavenly Retribution Dao Palace? Amazing!”

As Lin Ming landed on the largest ancient bronze coffin, Xiao Moxian didn’t know why but she felt a hint of inexplicable sadness. Just then when she watched Lin Ming attack the Heavenly Retribution Dao Palace, his body had cracked open and was being torn apart... but she actually wasn’t able to help at all. This made her feel something that she couldn’t define with words.

Moreover, Lin Ming had spent these last 30 years working wholeheartedly towards breaking into the Heavenly Retribution Dao Palace. He had paid many prices, and Xiao Moxian had seen all of this occur with her own eyes. In the Asura Road, Lin Ming had no one backing him and no large influence supporting him. All of the materials and resources he needed were things that he struggled for a little at a time!

At the Divine Rune City Auction, everyone had seen Lin Ming’s blinding halo and had seen him use his exquisite divine runic symbols to suppress the crowd and had even played with Shadow

Overflow and the other dark divine runic masters in the palm of his hand. But, which one of them had seen Lin Ming spend years in his divine runic room in order to draw up divine runic symbols? He had not rested for days at a time, exhausted the strength of his divine soul without end and even relied on the Divine Mist Heart Mantra and Soul Recovery Symbols to restore his soul force and continue. He had worked without rest, and oftentimes he would collapse on the ground, his face pale and his eyes bloodshot!

All of that work had finally paid off in today's accomplishments!

Everyone guessed that Lin Ming had some secret on his body, and Xiao Moxian also faintly knew what Lin Ming's secret was. But, if someone thought that just relying on this secret would have allowed Lin Ming to arrive where they were, they would be utterly mistaken. The reason Lin Ming was able to stand where he was today was because his mentality and iron will played a great role.

At this time, Lin Ming could be said to be mind-linked with Xiao Moxian. He could vaguely feel just what Xiao Moxian was thinking. He moved forwards, gently cupping her cheek in his palm as he said, "For me to come this far, I'm already very lucky. After this final trial ends, I must return to the Divine Realm to face the great calamity of humanity. The road I need to walk is still long.

"As must I..." Xiao Moxian took a deep shuddering breath. The solemn road before her, the calamity of humanity, there were many things she had to face. Not only did she need to face the saint race but also those that might already have turned towards the saint race – the monster race and her grandfather.

If this was before, Xiao Moxian would have felt it impossible to resist the decision of her people. But now a deep fighting spirit had ignited in her mind. Only by being powerful would she have the ability to argue with her race and face the great calamity.

Moreover, as Lin Ming continued to grow stronger, Xiao Moxian

had to hasten her pace and follow him. She would not allow herself to be cast off by him. She would definitely complete her nine nirvanas!

When Lin Ming broke into the Heavenly Retribution Dao Palace, his body obtained endless benefits.

Even just sitting down, he could feel the blood within him surging like a river. There was also a great deal of majestic starlight that had yet to be absorbed. Even some of the medicinal efficacy of the Ravenous Wolf Heaven Pill and nameless ancient pill still remained in his blood and marrow.

This made it so that every time he breathed, misty white air would spray out from his nose, filling the air around him with clouds of medicinal fragrance.

“There is still a great deal of energy within me that hasn’t been digested... although I broke into the second Dao Palace, I have less than 20 years from the final trial beginning. I absolutely cannot be negligent in my preparations. This Asura Road world is vast and boundless and there are countless geniuses and powerhouses here, yet, when they enter the final trial they all fail. In the last 100 million years, the highest completion percentage has only been slightly more than eighty and there are also many chosen prides of heaven that perish in the final trial...”

Lin Ming didn’t underestimate the final trial. This would be the most important battle he would face in the Asura Road and he had to make sure all his preparations were complete.

“Then I’ll use this period of time to borrow the spiritual strengths within the Forsaken Mortal Tomb to make another breakthrough!” Lin Ming thought to himself.

During this breakthrough into the Heavenly Retribution Dao Palace, Lin Ming had come perfectly prepared for all situations. Thus, the difficulty he encountered was far less than when he tried to break into the first Dao Palace.

The final trial of the Asura Road could be imagined to have many uncertainties and dangers.

From this moment on, he would need to do his best to prepare yet again.

“Xian’er, I want to attack the late Divine Lord realm here.” Lin Ming said to Xiao Moxian, his eyes sparkling.

Xiao Moxian’s eyes curved up and a smirk appeared on her face. “The final trial will arrive in a dozen plus years. You can calmly cultivate here. As for me, I won’t be idling around either. I will cultivate together with you. I’ll make sure that you won’t be able to leave me behind that much!”

“Good, then let’s do this together.” Lin Ming looked at the animated Xiao Moxian, his eyes following her slim and graceful figure as he smiled.

Time passed. Lin Ming and Xiao Moxian spent their time cultivating together in this mysterious danger zone.

The two were both extremely proud children of heaven. As their bodies twined together, a misty brilliance emerged from them. Lin Ming’s True Dragon aura wove together with Xiao Moxian’s Dark Phoenix aura, soaring into the skies.

A resonant dragon’s howl, a clear phoenix’s cry, an aura filled with thunder and fire spread out in all directions, dispersing all shadows.

As the two of them dual cultivated longer and longer, the True Dragon phantom and Dark Phoenix phantom in the skies became increasingly realistic.

One dragon, one phoenix, they were like the sun and the moon, brilliant and lustrous.

Countless dazzling and mystical runes overflowed from their bodies, revolving in wild waves around the two...

In the Forsaken Mortal Tomb, days of cultivating were incomparably long.

As Lin Ming and Xiao Moxian dual cultivated year after year, the auspicious power of their dragon and phoenix became even more formidable.

Three years later –

All of the medicinal efficacy within Lin Ming's body, as well as the starlight glory he harvested after breaking through the Heavenly Retribution Dao Palace, was completely fused into him. His body seemed to have returned to its origin, without leaking out even the tiniest amount of strength.

As for the strength accumulated in his body, it had reached a terrifying degree.

At this time, Lin Ming's eyes turned towards the death energy around him and the residual will around the ancient bronze coffin.

“Essence energy of the heavens and earth, come unto my body!”

Lin Ming flicked his finger and shot out a gray rune. The air shook as strange ripples appeared in space. Suddenly wisps of the black turtle death energy began flooding his body.

This was a rune of the Myriad Demon Karmic Wheel!

The Myriad Demon Karmic Wheel could absorb the remnant souls of devils. When Tian Mingzi died in the past, his soul had been sucked into the Myriad Demon Karmic Wheel. This time, the Myriad Demon Karmic Wheel was absorbing the spiritual energy that filled the entirety of the Forsaken Mortal Tomb; it was simply too wonderful.

When Lin Ming cultivated by himself, he would bring out the Myriad Demon Karmic Wheel and begin swallowing and refining the black turtle death energy and the residual wills that exuded from the ancient bronze coffins.

These residual wills were all muddled and without sense of self. If Lin Ming didn't have an extremely sharp perception he simply wouldn't have been able to realize this power existed.

As wisps of residual will from the Forsaken Mortals fell onto the Myriad Demon Karmic Wheel that was formed by the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws, they were like soldiers meeting a general, immediately becoming calm and docile.

The black turtle death energy and the phantoms of gold-armored giants floated in the air. Slowly, Lin Ming absorbed them into the Myriad Demon Karmic Wheel, refining them into the purest form of energy that constantly filled Lin Ming's body.

There was far too much energy within the Forsaken Mortal Tomb. Lin Ming was only able to absorb an extremely limited amount of it. But after accumulating this energy again and again every day, it brought about amazing changes to Lin Ming's body.

These changes were an accumulation of quantity that led to a qualitative change. Without noticing it, Lin Ming's inner world was flooded to the limit with energy. Lin Ming's cultivation was already taking great steps towards entering the late Divine Lord realm.

Chapter 1666 – Late Divine Lord

Spring passed to fall and then back again. Within this Forsaken Mortal Tomb, Lin Ming constantly cultivated. In the blink of an eye, five years had gone by.

Lin Ming's hair continued to grow and whenever it was too long Xiao Moxian would cut it for him. For these five years, Xiao Moxian hadn't cut her hair at all. Because her hair wasn't short to begin with, the current Xiao Moxian's hair looked like a black waterfall that fell to her ankles, blooming like a rose.

Lin Ming sat in meditation, faint traces of the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws continuously spinning around his body like countless threads of black silk.

Moreover, these black silk threads were twined together with the strange runes from the ancient bronze coffin. Through analyzing these, one could comprehend the true meaning of those mysterious runes.

Another three years passed.

Eight years later...

With Lin Ming's effort, the energy within his body became increasingly rich.

Just by simply sitting on the ancient bronze coffin, his entire body emitting a brilliance like a divine Buddha.

Countless runes appeared on his skin, shimmering into existence within his flesh and blood. They floated in the void, automatically absorbing the essence of the heavens and earth.

The true meaning of the ancient bronze coffin's runes unexpectedly appeared in the void around him. Their essence had already been comprehended by him.

“These are runes derived from the Asura Heavenly Dao. With

these runes on the ancient bronze coffins, they are able to form massive spirit gathering arrays and swallow the essence energy from the heavens and earth to constantly nourish whatever it is that lies within these ancient coffins... if these runes were to fuse into my flesh and blood, then during battle they would automatically absorb the essence energy of the world on their own... even if the speed isn't too fast, there are actually endless advantages to them..."

As Lin Ming spoke to himself, he formed seal after seal.

12 years later...

On this day, Lin Ming could clearly feel something change within him. His heart beat like a drum, every beat like a bolt of thunder, every beat causing the earth to quake along with his heart.

With a thought, a plain-looking pill flew into Lin Ming's palm. This pill was the nameless ancient pill that Lin Ming had won at the Divine Rune City Auction.

Before, only a tiny bit of the essence energy from this pill had been absorbed by Lin Ming. 90% of its medicinal strength still remained.

Lin Ming directly swallowed down this nameless ancient pill. Then, a deep and robust strength broke into his inner world.

The current Lin Ming was far stronger than he was in the past. After subduing the Ravenous Wolf Star and opening the Heavenly Retribution Dao Palace, even the swelling stormy strength of the nameless ancient pill was unable to shake the root of Lin Ming's foundation!

By borrowing this strength and all the accumulations he made during the last 12 years, Lin Ming finally began his breakthrough into the late Divine Lord realm!

There was a loud rumbling sound in his dantian and a wisp of deep blue spiritual strength appeared, wrapped with mysterious

runes and filled with an immense aura that brimmed over with vitality.

Waves of spiritual strength, death energy, and the power of the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws began to wildly attack the borders of Lin Ming's inner world.

The Purple Temple Dao Palace appeared and waves of astral power impacted the world with tens of billions of jins of force. As all of this strength attacked the inner world, mountains were shattered and created, rivers were broken and formed...

Ka ka ka!

Thunder recklessly cast down and flames swept through the skies. The Heretical God Tree floated high in the air, sending out peals of tyrannical thunder, frantically expanding the boundaries of the inner world.

Wherever this strength went, space would explode into pieces.

However, this terrifying annihilating power of thunder and fire hid a shuddering vitality within it.

Following the destructive paths of the thunder and fire, a faint bright green color would appear in the world.

Through all these various strengths, the small world began to grow with marvelous changes occurring everywhere. A strange and misty life force spread throughout, becoming increasingly vibrant.

Such a change continued for over two months. Then, light began shooting out from Lin Ming's pores. The evolution of his inner world was reaching its finale and the medicinal efficacy of the nameless ancient pill had also been fully absorbed by him.

In that instant, Lin Ming's eyes flashed open. A terrifying aura erupted from his body. However, in the next moment, all of it was restrained, completely vanishing from the senses!

Even Xiao Moxian, who was looking at Lin Ming, couldn't feel his existence.

Lin Ming's aura seemed to have completely melted and fused into the world surrounding him.

The small world within his body also developed a strange connection to the outside.

The reason such a change occurred was that Lin Ming had finally broken into the late Divine Lord realm. But more than that, it was because he had already opened the Heavenly Retribution Dao Palace, allowing his body to commune with the heavens and earth, achieving a state of becoming one with the world.

"Big Brother Lin, you finally reached the late Divine Lord realm! The next boundary is a half-step Holy Lord and then the Holy Lord realm. After Big Brother Lin reaches the Holy Lord realm, I have no idea what your strength will be like. I even wonder if you'll have a chance of surviving in the presence of an Emphyrean..." Xiao Moxian hopefully whispered.

"Emphyrean?" Lin Ming shook his head. "An Emphyrean is far too strong. Even if I am at the Holy Lord realm I doubt I will be able to compare to even the weakest of Emphyreans. Just the Great World King boundary is an enormous span. If I want to cross two large boundaries to challenge someone, I don't think that is possible at all."

Before this, Lin Ming had often been able to jump two large boundaries to fight. But, this had basically been the Divine Sea realm against the Divine Lord realm, or Divine Transformation realm against the Holy Lord realm.

However, the boundary that separated a Great World King and an Emphyrean was far too large. And, those that manage to reach that realm were all outstanding existences. During their youth, they too were able to jump ranks to fight. If Lin Ming wanted to jump past two boundaries to fight characters like these, that would

be as difficult as ascending to the heavens.

“Mm... fighting an Empyrean is a bit too exaggerated, but when you complete the final trial, your strength will further increase yet again. At that time, no one will be able to predict just where the limits of your strength are!”

“Final trial... perhaps it might not be so simple.” Lin Ming shook his head. He wasn’t able to predict just what completion percentage he would obtain after the final trial ended. “It’s not a good time for us to leave here yet. My late Divine Lord foundation is unstable and there is still a limitless amount of black turtle death energy and all sorts of strengths here. We can take this spiritual strength as food to consolidate both our late Divine Lord cultivations and stabilize our inner worlds.”

Lin Ming wasn’t in a hurry to leave; he still had several years before the final trial would begin. Before that, he still had to draw up a batch of divine runic symbols to use so that he would have additional trump cards when facing the dangers in the final trial.

During these next several years he had to consolidate his cultivation and steadily stand in the late Divine Lord realm.

As for Xiao Moxian, she also needed to cultivate so that she could attempt to reach the peak of the late Divine Lord realm.

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What Lin Ming didn’t know was that during this period of seclusion, a considerable event was occurring in the Asura Road.

On one day, a blue phoenix appeared in the skies above the central province of Divine Void Divine Kingdom. This was a true Phoenix God Beast with a pure bloodline. And on this phoenix’s back was a mysterious woman wrapped in an icy blue dress.

This woman’s face was covered with gauze. As she stood there she seemed lofty and proud, someone that renounced the world and took solace in herself. As she appeared she attracted the

attention of many people, and finally, she even alarmed the Divine Sovereign of the Divine Void Divine Kingdom – Soul Emperor Divine Void.

Soul Emperor Divine Void had already reached the True Divinity realm. Even so, he intentionally left seclusion to personally meet this blue-clothed woman...

Chapter 1667 – Soul Empress Sheng Mei

In an endless sea of clouds, a deep blue palace floated. This palace was like a crystal sculpture and its walls were inlaid with rows of soul crystals.

These soul crystals were similar to nine sun jades in value. To the spiritas, they were extremely luxurious cultivation goods. But now, just on the outer walls of this palace, there were tens of thousands of them.

Just by walking in this soul crystal palace, one could feel a rich soul origin energy spreading out in all directions. Even if a mortal with no martial talent were to live here, they would slowly be nourished by the energy of the soul crystals and transform into someone with an incredible soul force. Their thoughts would be quick, their memory photographic, and their words wise.

At this time, within this Soul Palace, there was another world. This world wasn't solemn and dignified, but a lush green paradise with spirit trees wildly growing everywhere and with flowers in full bloom. Rivers of water fell down celestial mountains in waterfalls, like hundreds of thousands of threads of white silk. Even spiritual birds and beasts flew through the air and ran on the ground, their calls delightful to the ears.

In a peach garden within this paradise, a blue-clothed woman stepped on the wind. Beside her was a blue phoenix. This blue phoenix had already shrunk to 100 feet long and its entire body burned with blue flames. One didn't feel a burning heat from these flames. Rather, as one approached it, they would feel their soul freezing.

This sort of blue flame was called deep blue ice flames, a terrifying fire no weaker than Xiao Moxian's nirvanic flames. They were flames exclusive to the phoenix race. Nirvanic flames were possessed by the Fire Phoenixes whereas deep blue ice flames were

possessed by the Ice Phoenixes.

This deep blue ice flame was incomparably terrifying. Moreover, this blue phoenix was nearly grown up and its bloodline was part of the phoenix race's royalty. If a martial artist were to approach the flames on its body, their body would be frozen into an ice sculpture by the terrifying cold even as their soul was burned by the flames and turned to ashes.

As this floating blue-clothed woman stepped into this otherworldly paradise, four young beautiful girls wearing veils and standing gracefully bowed to her.

These young girls didn't know the status of this blue-clothed woman, but if Soul Emperor Divine Void were to personally welcome her in Divine Void Heavenly Palace, then her status could be imagined!

Many maids in Divine Void Heavenly Palace were secretly speculating on who this blue-clothed woman was.

Many of them believed that someone who was taken so seriously by Soul Emperor Divine Void might have the chance of being a True Divinity level existence. However, within the entire Asura Road, spiritas True Divinities were unfathomably rare. Moreover, these rare people only included a few amongst their numbers. And, if one looked beyond Soul Emperor Divine Void, all of the other characters were nothing more than legends. Some of these people had legends tracing back a billion years, and now these people had likely died. Not just that, but even their legends were unreliable. It was unknown whether these people were truly True Divinities or not.

But, as everyone considered all the legends they knew of every single spiritas True Divinity to exist, none of them matched this blue-clothed woman. This woman resembled someone that was 17 or 18 years old. It was hard to imagine that someone so youthful could be a True Divinity.

Walking alone, all maids within Divine Void Heavenly Palace fell to their knees.

Among these people there were even high level figures of Divine Void Heavenly Palace. But, even Great World King powerhouses had to bow before this woman.

“This woman, just who is she?”

After this blue-clothed woman walked past, the Vice Internal Affairs Envoy of Divine Void Heavenly Palace asked with a sound transmission.

“I have no idea... she might be a True Divinity, right? At the very least she should be an extreme Empyrean!”

“Impossible. I could feel that she is only at the early Empyrean realm. The only possibility is if she is hiding her cultivation and only then would she have the chance of being at the True Divinity realm. But, I don’t think a True Divinity would do something so boring as hiding their cultivation in front of us.”

Although the blue-clothed woman had a mysterious status she didn’t hide her soul sea. It wasn’t difficult for those at the World King realm or above to see her cultivation boundary.

But this boundary of just barely having entered the Empyrean realm, that left everyone puzzled.

How could a low level Empyrean possibly receive such a courteous reception from Soul Emperor Divine Void?

As everyone was discussing with sound transmissions, the blue-clothed woman continued forwards.

The entire ground was covered with a spring that shined like diamonds. Water trickled out and flowers bloomed. The blue-clothed woman went straight to the deepest parts of the palace. Here, a white-clothed middle-aged man was already waiting.

This man was handsome, with skin as fair as gems. He wore his

hair up and adorned with a star crown. His eyebrows were smooth and gentle and his hands were slender and filled with power. All of the energy within him was gathered tight without any being leaked out. From appearances, he seemed like a poor scholar of the mortal world. However, with every step he took, every flower and tree in this world, all the birds, and spirit beasts would look towards this man with awe in their eyes as if they saw their own sovereign king. Wherever this man went, flowers would bend over, birds would land, and spirit beasts would kneel!

This man was the master of Divine Void Divine Kingdom and within the Asura Road, disregarding the legendary existences that may or may not exist, he was the sole spiritas True Divinity supreme elder known by all!

Because of this he was titled the Soul Emperor of the Asura Road. This meant that he was the number one existence amongst all spiritas that lived in the Asura Road!

“Sheng Mei...”

The man turned around, looking at the blue-clothed woman moving slowly towards him. His eyes flashed with a brilliant light. “It seems your Grand Reincarnation Art has already reached the sixth revolution. As long as you have enough time you’ll reach perfection of the sixth revolution sooner or later...”

The blue-clothed woman remained silent. Sheng Mei was her name, but she also had a title – that was, Soul Empress Sheng Mei!

However, Soul Empress Sheng Mei did not come from the Asura Road, but came from the 33 Heavens!

“Six revolutions isn’t difficult. What is difficult is the final three revolutions, the seventh, eighth, and ninth...” Sheng Mei’s voice was calm and her expression placid.

“Haha! Six revolutions isn’t difficult?” The man shook his head as he laughed. “Only you would dare to say such words. Once you

complete your nine revolutions and your deep blue ice phoenix completes its nine nirvanas, I fear that within the great heavens and earth, there won't be a single person that can hinder your step!"

Soul Emperor Divine Void gave Sheng Mei an incredibly high evaluation.

However, Sheng Mei only lightly sighed, as if there was some knot she couldn't untie in her heart. She didn't reveal any joy at the grand future that Soul Emperor Divine Void painted for her.

Soul Emperor Divine Void's heart moved and he seemed to realize something. He hesitated for a moment and then said with a gentle cajoling tone, "Sheng Mei, I've never understood something. With your talent and ability, why do you place yourself under the yoke of that person, helping that old geezer who has already lived for several hundreds of millions of years? You can absolutely establish your own sect. If you and I join together, then by relying on our strength, ruling over the entire 33 Heavens won't be difficult at all!"

Soul Emperor Divine Void had great ambitions. This wasn't the first time that he had said such words to Soul Empress Sheng Mei.

Towards Soul Empress Sheng Mei he felt a great deal of admiration and respect. There was even... adoration and desire!

When Soul Emperor Divine Void was young he had indulged in his carnal nature before. But after stepping into the True Divinity realm, there was no woman that was able to enter his eyes. Right now, within his harem, there was not a single person left.

If there was a person that could draw the admiration of someone as proud and arrogant as Soul Emperor Divine Void, that person's perfection and magnificence could be imagined.

However, in front of Sheng Mei, Soul Emperor Divine Void had never revealed any of this to her. He was well aware that wanting

to pursue Soul Empress Sheng Mei was impossibility difficult. She was someone whose heart was higher than the heavens, and wanting to intrude on her life wasn't easy.

Even the 'old geezer' who Soul Emperor Divine Void referred to was only someone that Sheng Mei assisted; they were in no way dual cultivation companions.

It was just that Soul Emperor Divine Void was confused this entire time. Why was someone so proud like Soul Empress Sheng Mei assisting some old fellow who was over a hundred times older than she was?

"I need... three spots." Sheng Mei suddenly said. The reason she came to Divine Void Heavenly Palace this time was for these three spots.

"Spots for the final trial? Although these spots are precious, to me, giving away a few isn't difficult at all. If you ask then let alone three, I can even give you 10! The only thing I don't like is that after you increase your strength, you will still desperately work for that old thing..."

Soul Emperor Divine Void's voice was indifferent. In such a scene, anyone else would have felt uncomfortable.

Sheng Mei was silent for a moment. After several breaths of time, she emotionlessly said, "Even without you, I can still obtain spots for the final trial. It would only be much more difficult. For these three spots, I can provide you with adequate rewards. If you still refuse then I can only bid my farewells."

Even if Sheng Mei needed help, her tone still wouldn't be that of defeat. Soul Emperor Divine Void reluctantly shook his head, saying, "Fine, then there's nothing I can do... three spots, I'll give them to you. Are these three spots to help you prepare for the completion of the sixth revolution?"

"Yes..."

Sheng Mei's cultivation method, the Grand Reincarnation Art, was unique and special. Every revolution of the Grand Reincarnation Art was to live a new life, starting from zero.

After reincarnating, her cultivation boundary would drop by several large realms. Then, she would have to re-cultivate!

This sort of cultivation method could not be practiced unless one was a peerless genius. It required that one have a cultivation speed at least 10 times that of an ordinary genius. Otherwise, if one's cultivation speed couldn't keep up, there would be a situation in which their boundary would actually drop lower overall.

"If you can complete the sixth revolution, then your talent, foundation, and accumulation of Laws will reach an unimaginable boundary... in the past, you created a record with an 83% completion rate, even surpassing the saint race's Good Fortune Saint Son, Wumo, and becoming the highest completion percent that the entire 33 Heavens and Asura Road have seen in the last 100 million years!

"This time, I fear you will shatter your own record. Perhaps... you can achieve 90%?"

Soul Emperor Divine Void smiled, shaking his head. Every time Soul Empress Sheng Mei reincarnated, her talent would gather and increase!

This sort of freakish cultivation method originated from only the heavens knew where. Perhaps even the Asura Road Master hadn't anticipated such a situation when he created the final trial.

Soul Emperor Divine Void had some faint speculations on where this Grand Reincarnation Art came from, but he couldn't confirm his suspicions.

"90?" Sheng Mei's eyebrows shot up. She calmly shook her head. "How could I achieve 90% completion... that is a number that only exists in legends. Let alone the sixth revolution, I doubt I will

achieve that even at the seventh revolution. I suspect that ever since the Asura Road smelting trial appeared, no one has ever managed to break through this number 90. My goal this time is only 85 or 86%...”

Sheng Mei’s tone was bleak and indifferent. Soul Emperor Divine Void gently chuckled. “Even an 85% completion rate is unprecedented. There is no one that can match you in the past and no one that will surpass you in the future!”

Chapter 1668 – Lin Ming Leaves Seclusion

When it came to information about the completion percentages of the Asura Road's final trial, because it had existed since time immemorial and countless people had participated, the ordinary martial artists of the Asura Road didn't know the best results of the final trial over the years.

But Soul Emperor Divine Void knew. He even had detailed information on the best trial challengers that participated in the last billion years. Out of all these people, those that achieved 80% or above only totaled a mere 10; this included the Good Fortune Saint Son and Soul Empress Sheng Mei.

As for an 85% completion rate, that had never occurred before. Thus, this was why Soul Emperor Divine Void had said 'there is no one that can match you in the past and no one that will surpass you in the future', when it came to describing Sheng Mei's potential result.

Sheng Mei only shook her head, saying, "3.6 billion years ago, in the great calamity of that samsara, that also symbolized the beginning of a new era. Whenever these times come, heroes will pour forth from the world and there will be those that undergo trials and surpass all results of the ancient past. It could even be said that in the next hundred years or thousand years there will be several geniuses that will surpass 80%. If so, then those heroes that rise during this inexorably new era will surely not disappoint..."

Soul Empress Sheng Mei's tone was calm, but her words carried with them a world-dominating aura.

Her heart was higher than the heavens and she feared no rivals or competition. Rather, what she hoped for was a great world in which heroes emerged from all over. Only on this grand stage where she competed with numerous proud children of heaven would she have the chance to break past her limits and achieve the

ultimate goal of her dreams.

.....

News about a blue-clothed woman riding a phoenix into Divine Void Divine Kingdom soon spread throughout the entirety of the Asura Road.

An Ice Phoenix God Beast was not something to pay particular attention to, the key issue here was that Soul Emperor Divine Void had personally come out of seclusion to greet her. When they left the depths of Divine Void Heavenly Palace, there was also no division between who left first and second. This sort of feeling was like Soul Emperor Divine Void placed this young blue-clothed woman on an equal pedestal with himself.

Like this, there were countless people that tried to guess this blue-clothed woman's status.

This blue-clothed woman wasn't purposefully trying to remain mysterious. After appearing in front of others several times, her identity was finally recognized.

Although the young woman cultivated the Grand Reincarnation Art, every time she reincarnated her looks would be the same, only seeming younger and more perfect. And the last time she attended the smelting trial, there were many people who had witnessed the beginning and end of the grand event, and she had left an extremely deep impression on these people.

In the last 100 million years of the Asura Road final trial, only two people had surpassed an 80% completion rate. The Good Fortune Saint Son was one with an 81% completion rate and the other was Sheng Mei, with an even more exaggerated 83% completion rate.

Compared to the Good Fortune Saint Son, Sheng Mei was an even more mystical existence. No one expected that many years later she would reappear in the Asura Road. Moreover, Soul Emperor

Divine Void would personally come out to receive her, and do so with utter respect and courtesy!

This left many people confused. According to any logic, no matter how talented this young spiritas woman was, no one could say with absolute certainty that she would become a True Divinity in the future! After all, as a genius grew, they would always experience accidents.

And Soul Emperor Divine Void was already a True Divinity level powerhouse. Why would he consider a young genius as someone on equal standing as him?

To say that this was because the young spiritas woman's background was extremely prominent and famous wasn't a good enough explanation, because Soul Emperor Divine Void came from the peak of prominence already.

Did this young spiritas woman have a special physique, or was she someone blessed by destiny and ordained for some higher role in the future?

Many people made guesses all over the place, but no matter what speculations they had, they were sure of one thing. This was that the talent of this young spiritas woman was horrifying, far more horrifying than they could imagine!

The appearance of this young spiritas woman was also easily connected to the upcoming opening of the final trial.

Was she actually thinking of entering the final trial a second time?

In everyone's opinion, although the final trial wasn't limited to just one attempt, the rewards offered at the end would only be given once to that percentage of completion. For instance, someone that had an 80% completion would obtain the 80% completion reward. If they attempted the final trial again and obtained 80% again, they would receive no rewards. They would

only receive another reward if they completed 81%.

As to what degree of the final trial one could complete, that mainly looked at one's talent. The rules of the final trial were even more favorable to juniors. Generally speaking, one only needed to participate once to know the result they would receive at any time in the future. Only if they had an amazingly massive lucky chance or their cultivation talent shot up rapidly would this change. Otherwise, no matter how many times they entered, their completion percentage would essentially stay the same. For this reason, who would waste a quota spot that had been obtained through people experiencing countless dangers and risking their lives? Who would be willing to do such a thankless thing?

Everyone had their own ideas. But as time passed, talk about this mysterious young spirit woman slowed down.

The seasons changed and time passed. Two years later, the greatest and most famous mystic realm in the entire Asura Road, the one with the best treasures, was finally about to open.

Within the inner Asura Road, this was a vastly important matter!

Qualifications to enter the final trial were not easy to obtain. Every qualification spot required one to collect a massive number of rare and precious god runes. When the mystic realm opened, there were normally only several hundred qualifications in the entire inner Asura Road.

And there were several hundred Emphyrean level influences in the inner Asura Road. Of these influences, some of them had multiple qualification spots. This meant that there were many Emphyrean level influences that weren't even able to obtain the qualifications.

As the day for the opening of the final trial approached, the entire inner Asura Road was roused into a zealous fervor.

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At this time, deep within the Great Desolate, a dark and primal

mountain suddenly began rumbling!

The rocks cracked and the earth trembled. A black palace tore through the mountain, ripping through space and shooting out like a meteor!

In the nearby mountain valleys, dozens of coiling ridge giants stood up. They were hundreds of feet tall and grasped giant tridents.

These coiling ridge giants were shocked by the sudden explosion. As they turned their heads they saw the black palace racing forwards like a comet out of the forbidden zone they guarded. Without a doubt, this action touched upon their reverse scale.

All of them wildly shouted out and crazily gave chase!

Sha! Sha! Sha!

Over 10 giants threw their weapons!

These weapons were millions of jins heavy. With a terrifying strength poured into them, these weapons were streaks of blazing light as they crashed into the black palace.

But in the moment of impact, a barrier lit up around the black palace, blocking all the attacks.

The black palace shook. Beneath the massive impact force it raced forwards even faster. In the blink of an eye it vanished into the horizon, leaving the dozens of giants running after it, roaring. However, the black palace opened the distance between them more and more.

This black palace was Primordius Heavenly Palace.

After secluding himself for over 10 years, Lin Ming finally exited the Forsaken Mortal Tomb. Currently, his present strength was incomparable to that of the past!

Now that he left seclusion, he had one goal – that was the final trial!

Primordius Heavenly Palace cut through the skies of the Great Desolate, turning to the direction of the transmission array to the inner Asura Road and rapidly flying towards it!

Chapter 1669 – Asura Sea

Deep within the inner Asura Road, there was a vast and endless sea called the Asura Sea.

The Asura Sea was connected to all large bodies of water within the Asura Road. It was incomparably large, unfathomably deep.

Even if a star were to sink into the Asura Sea, it would be completely submerged in the waters.

This terrifying sea had sea beasts and dangerous fish that reached unbelievable sizes. Even Empyrean level powerhouses weren't willing to fly deep into the Asura Sea, lest they meet these terrifying sea creatures.

However, in these past few days, this Asura Sea that people rarely visited was actually becoming increasingly lively.

From time to time there would be high level martial artists flying across the sea. Sometimes there would be giant troops appearing and disappearing.

All of this was because the final trial's mystic realm was located atop the Asura Sea!

The final trial could be called the most important part of the Asura Road world. Some people even believed that when the Asura Road Master created the Asura Road in the past, it was to develop a foundation for the final trial to continue his inheritance.

But no matter whether or not these stories were reliable or what the truth was, it was without doubt that the final trial was the grandest event in the entire Asura Road!

All the various influences in the Asura Road certainly wouldn't miss out on such a grand event. If an influence had a disciple participating in the final trial they would certainly come to closely watch the results. Even for influences that didn't have any disciples participating, they would still come to gather information

– information on their enemies’ disciples or their allies’ disciples and how they grew.

Beyond that, there were many curious individuals that came to join in on the fun. This grand event gathered all sorts of heroic individuals. With such a great scene, who would miss out on it?

.....

At this time, at the border area of Divine Void Divine Kingdom, there was a massive sect that occupied vast swathes of land. This sect’s buildings were grand and magnificent, and at the mountain entrances, dozens of great array formations were laid down. If Lin Ming were here, then even under his high standards he would still judge these as top array formations. Once these array formations were activated together and under the management of a top powerhouse, even several Emphyreans working together would find it difficult to break through!

For a sect to have such grand array formations, their background should be deep and there should be many young elites pouring forth from their ranks. However, the truth was the opposite. This sect was sparsely populated and didn’t seem to have any life to it at all. The array formations around the mountains remained unopened and unused, doing nothing but gathering dust.

This was because although these array formations were incomparably powerful, they used up too many energy stones far too quickly. The sect simply wasn’t able to keep up the supply of energy stones, thus these array formations only served as decorations now.

Without a doubt, this was a sect that had once been glorious beyond comparison, but was now in steep decline.

At this time, in a grand hall of the sect, a black-clothed man and green-clothed girl were kneeling on the ground. Standing in front of the two of them was an old man with thick white hair and beard.

“Moonpond, Soulsky, the two of you are the final hopes of our Divine Mist Holy Land... ever since Empyrean Divine Mist went missing, our sect has had to withstand the other influences nibbling away at us, and now we are no longer as radiant as we were in the past. In order to train you two... the sect could be said to have given all of our resources. This time, master has also paid a great price to obtain two spots in the final trial for you both. I only hope that you will not disappoint the sect!”

This old man’s face was covered with wrinkles. His body was old and bent and his fires of life were as frail as a candle in the wind, ready to extinguish at any moment; this old man was in the final years of his life...

Looking at this dying old man, no one would imagine that he was once just a tiny bit away from becoming an Empyrean. In the past, he followed Empyrean Divine Mist to adventure through the world and wage war with their enemies. In the entire inner Asura Road, his name had been earth-shaking and people panicked in his presence. But after Empyrean Divine Mist went missing, he had been tricked and wounded by his enemies and now he ended up in this state.

The two youths remained kneeling. Although they didn’t speak, their eyes showed their determination.

“Go then my children. Although Empyrean Divine Mist might have perished in the past, the heavens have not abandoned my Divine Mist Holy Lands. For master to run into you two in the final thousand years of my life, that is my fortune. You two are the last remaining wealth of the Divine Mist Holy Lands. Now, my only wish is that you two can become Empyreans in the future and allow my Divine Mist Holy Lands to be restored to its former glory!”

The old man’s voice was bleak and lonely, making the souls of those who listened to him tremble. Behind him stood a towering black stone statue. This statue’s appearance was shaped exactly

like Empyrean Divine Mist's in Tragic Death Valley. The statue's eyes stared off into the far distance, its eyes filled with awe and indifference.

At the same time, in the bordering Divine Void Divine Kingdom, it was a completely different scene.

Within Divine Void Heavenly Palace, in a starry world, Soul Emperor Divine Void floated high in the skies, his clothes white like snow. His entire body emitted the light of Laws. With just a wave of his hand or a step of his foot, space twisted and churned!

In front of him, innumerable young elites knelt on the ground, lined up in rows. These kneeling disciples extended all the way backwards, and looking to the far end, one could see that there were hundreds of thousands of people!

But at the front of these hundreds of thousands of disciples were 10 martial artists kneeling side by side. These 10 individuals had cultivations ranging from the late Divine Lord realm to the ordinary World King realm. They were outstanding figures chosen from all of these disciples and elected to enter the final trial on behalf of Divine Void Divine Kingdom!

“You are all outstanding elites of Divine Void Divine Kingdom. I want all of you to reach at least 70%! Out of all the different influences participating I want you all to be first!”

This deep and dreadful voice echoed through this world, even causing the stars in the sky to tremble.

In front of Soul Emperor Divine Void, all of the disciples of Divine Void Divine Kingdom knelt downwards. And behind them there were seven tall figures. These figures were all wrapped in cloaks, their bodies overflowing with terrifying fluctuations of Laws.

These seven people all had Empyrean realm cultivations.

Seven Emphyreans! They were all the rulers of Divine Void Divine

Kingdom's seven provinces!

Divine Void Divine Kingdom was undoubtedly the number one spiritas influence in the entire inner Asura Road. But, this didn't mean that there was no opponent that could match them.

The rival of Divine Void Divine Kingdom was also a True Divinity Holy Land, one of the saint race – Heaven Union Divine Kingdom.

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Within the inner Asura Road, one saint True Divinity influence and one spiritas True Divinity influence, the two of them represented the ultimate strength of their respective races. Their struggles and rivalry were in a sense the struggle between the saints and spiritas!

“You have one opponent, and that is Divine Void Divine Kingdom!” Within Heaven Union Divine Kingdom, Divine Sovereign Heaven Union also personally mobilized his disciples. His figure was concealed in the dim void and it was impossible to make out his appearance. All anyone saw was a figure that stood high like an iron tower.

“The final trial is under the gaze of all people, but no matter how many heroes converge at the Asura Sea, their eyes will focus on us and Divine Void Divine Kingdom! During this final trial we must become the focal point of everyone's attention! You must not disgrace me! Suppress Divine Void Divine Kingdom and allow the saints to be proud and prosper. If so, then all of you shall be generously rewarded! Otherwise, if you fail me then you must sit in confinement for 100 years!”

Divine Sovereign Heaven Union's voice was vibrant and powerful, echoing through the starry skies!

.....

As influences from all over set out towards the Asura Sea, the day for the opening of the final trial finally approached.

Rumble rumble!

Just as the sun was dawning and the sky was filled with haze, a loud explosion rang through the entire coastline.

On the calm sea surface, whirlpools appeared all over that were thousands of miles wide. A giant long-necked sea beast the size of a mountain shot out from deep within the sea.

As this sea beast appeared, it carried with it a ferocious and cruel aura, making all who saw it feel shocked and intimidated.

Above the sea beast stood two troops of blue-armored warriors. They grasped tridents in their hands that sparkled with electricity and their expressions were resolute.

Between these blue-armored warriors stood a handsome youth with skin as fair as jade. This man was the Crown Prince of an Empyrean level influence that dwelled in the Asura Sea, a clan of seafaring people.

Countless mermen shot out from the surface of the water, grasping gleaming weapons in their hands. Their momentum was overwhelming and dreadful.

Before these people came to a stop, at this moment, a strange howl echoed out from the skies.

All they saw was a massive ink-black giant beast descend, as if it had fallen down from the galaxy. Black clouds surrounded its body and it brought with it an unparalleled deadly aura.

Sitting above this pitch black giant beast was a man with a long scar on his face.

This man's eyes were cold and shined with a sharp golden light. It was like this person could shoot out countless swords with just a single glance.

From the layer of clouds behind him, three-headed birds shot out. Each bird had numerous warriors standing guard atop its

back.

In the blink of an eye, from the waves, a massive golden carriage shot up from the water's surface, pulled by 16 flood dragons.

These flood dragons were massive, looking like islands that moved across the sea. Wherever they went, stormy waves would rise up, causing the vast sea to churn.

Sitting in this golden carriage was a tall fat person, as round as a mountain of meat. He held a beast leg as thick as a bucket and was gnawing on it. As he ate, he also glanced at the people around him.

Black turtles floated on the surface behind this golden carriage, following its path. Tens of thousands of figures stood on these black turtles and were cheering as loudly as they could.

Even though these people were all different, all of them were outstanding individuals within the Asura Road!

Today, they had all gathered here. Amongst them, some were friends and some were enemies. But no matter who they were, their goal here today was the final trial.

“Hoho, it's quite lively. There are so many young heroes here.” Suddenly, in the skies above, the white clouds began to change shape, turning into a staircase of white clouds.

A rich-looking man stood tall and proud, wearing a crown on his head and dressed in bright yellow robes. Behind him were gaggles of beautifully swaying young women, all of them stepping down the stairway of clouds as they followed the man.

With every step this man took, it was like the sea below him resonated with him.

The many gathered chosen prides of heaven looked up at this newcomer.

“Eclipse Palace's Palace Master?”

This Eclipse Palace Master was a half-step Empyrean. In the past

he had killed countless people and was a fierce and ominous figure. But for the last million years, he had been living quietly in seclusion. However, he had decided to come out for this grand event.

Afterwards, more and more people arrived. The young master of the Hundred Thousand Foot Cliff, the proudest son of the Aurora Holy Lands, the head monks of Bountiful Fields Temple... one at a time, high level figures from the influences that ruled over the Asura Road began to appear in abundance.

After all, the qualifications for the Asura Road's final trial were far too important.

At this time, on the coast of the Asura Sea, a hundred mile long observation pavilion had been set up. On this observation pavilion were tides of people, and all of these people were powerhouses that originated from all over the Asura Road. However, many of these people hadn't reached a level of talent that allowed them to compete in the final trial, thus they were only able to look on from a distance.

And, there were over 30 of these observation pavilions set along the coast of the Asura Sea. On these observation pavilions, all that gathered were elites of the world.

Chapter 1670 – The Mystic Realm Opens

The Asura Sea surged with crowds of people. In this bustling scene, a small squad of three men and two women rode in on flying puppets.

Lin Ming and Xiao Moxian were in this squad.

Besides Lin Ming and Xiao Moxian, the three others were Mo Brightmoon and the two companions she brought.

Just several days ago, Lin Ming and Mo Brightmoon had contacted each other according to the method they had established 50 years ago. Then, together, they rushed over to the Asura Sea.

Today's Mo Brightmoon wore a tight, red-colored suit of martial clothing that contrasted with her slender figure. To her side was a man wearing a bamboo hat.

This man seemed like a mortal in his thirties. He was stern and grim and his eyes flashed with electricity. He carried a heavy saber on his back that was half the height of a normal person. His aura was collected and his gait was like a leopard in the jungle. Just from looking at him one could tell he was an assassination master that was skilled in concealment.

This man's code name was Thousand Slaughter and his cultivation was at the peak of the ordinary World King realm.

Like Mo Brightmoon, he was also an assassin. Although his talent wasn't considered to be at the pinnacle, his true combat strength left one bewildered. According to Mo Brightmoon, Thousand Slaughter was definitely someone able to fight three martial artists on the same step as him. Just by his rich combat experience and instinct alone, this allowed him to face off one against three.

In a sneak attack situation, Thousand Slaughter's combat strength was even higher. His striking power was amazing.

The reason that Thousand Slaughter participated in this final

trial was to search for a turning point to break into the Great World King realm.

A martial artist like Thousand Slaughter usually came from a background of wandering martial artists, or, he might have even been a commoner. For these people, they had to struggle for every step as they grew up and their road was far more difficult than that of disciples of other large influences. His road was basically carved at the point of his saber.

An incomparably precious chance like being able to participate in the final trial was usually monopolized by the many large influences; it was almost never their chance to participate.

Behind Thousand Slaughter was a delicate and feminine-looking man who appeared to be just over 20 years old. He had a stunningly beautiful appearance and his voice was calm and neutral. As one looked at him, it was hard to tell whether he was a man or a woman.

This man's name was Fanny Fafa. Although he was a man, he had an extremely rare pure yin physique. This was a cause of envy for many women, because a woman with a pure yin physique would be exceptionally beautiful and they would hold an invisible and magnetic attraction for the opposite sex. Moreover, this physique bestowed upon them a rare cultivation talent. In terms of the joys of the bed, this type of woman was even more outstanding in the world, thus many martial artists dreamed of being able to dual cultivate with a woman that had a pure yin physique.

Women with pure yin physiques were already extremely rare; men with pure yin physiques were even rarer.

This Fanny Fafa cultivated a pure yin cultivation technique that was biased towards women, so this caused Fanny Fafa to be even more feminine in appearance.

Although Fanny Fafa appeared delicate, in a true battle he was even harder to deal with than Thousand Slaughter. His techniques

were strange and unpredictable.

“So many people...”

Xiao Moxian was stunned by the seas of people she saw. According to what she knew, this final trial was an extremely dangerous and secretive mystic realm with only several dozen people participating. Of those that entered, whether they lived or died would depend on their own destinies.

But, she never imagined such a grand scene.

“Of course... this is a grand event of the Asura Road. During every final trial there will be numerous peerless talents emerging from the shadows, so many large influences will send people here to attend the opening ceremonies. If these geniuses that emerge are from large influences then they can gather information on them, but if these geniuses just happen to be wandering martial artists or from small scattered sects, the large influences might be able to win them over...”

“So it’s like this. It’s no wonder that when the Good Fortune Saint Son and the mysterious spirit woman completed the final trial and achieved an 80% or higher completion rate, this information passed out so far and wide that even minor characters in the Asura Road know of it.”

Lin Ming thought out loud. The minor character he spoke of was naturally Soulwhite. When Lin Ming first learned information about the final trial, it was Soulwhite who had told him.

As Lin Ming was thinking, suddenly, in the distant east, massive 100,000 foot long beams of light appeared.

Looking over there, one could see a marvelous giant divine mountain appear, its upper mountain peak piercing into the sea of clouds. As it sped forwards, it brought about massive rumbling sounds in the air that left the world in turmoil.

Wherever it went, massive tsunamis would appear in the sea.

On that magnificent divine mountain, there were a million silver warriors bathed in strange runes and holding icy cold spears in their hands.

These million warriors were tall and strong, their features hidden in the dazzling radiance exuding from the glorious divine mountain.

“That is... Divine Void Divine Kingdom’s Boundless Divine Mountain!

“It really is Boundless Divine Mountain! What a tremendous display of power!”

Someone cried out from the sea of martial artists.

But, everyone knew that the reason Divine Void Divine Kingdom brought forth the Boundless Divine Mountain was to be a demonstration of their might. In this momentous event of the Asura Road, Divine Void Divine Kingdom and Heaven Union Divine Kingdom were the two main leads; everyone else couldn’t help but feel weakened! Together, the two Divine Kingdoms would engage in a brutal battle of life or death within the final trial.

“Boundless Divine Mountain?” Lin Ming asked. Beside him, Mo Brightmoon said, “This Boundless Divine Mountain is said to be a spirit treasure that has reached the limits of the Empyrean level. After another million years of refining, it might surpass an Empyrean spirit treasure and become a True Divinity spirit treasure! This treasure is eternally changing, with 10,000 different variations. It is an offensive and defensive fortress and is said to be Soul Emperor Divine Void’s most precious spirit treasure.”

“Soul Emperor Divine Void...” Lin Ming thought for a moment. This person was Empyrean Divine Mist’s ultimate blood enemy.

“To become a True Divinity level spirit treasure in a hundred million years? Isn’t that much better than Big Brother Lin’s Primordius Heavenly Palace?”

Xiao Moxian muttered by Lin Ming's side, her cheeks flushed red.

Lin Ming smiled. "Soul Emperor Divine Void is, after all, a True Divinity. It wouldn't be strange for things he refined to reach the limit of Empyrean spirit treasures... as for Empyrean Primordius, he lacked destiny. If it weren't for the accidents that befell him in the past, he likely would have become a True Divinity sooner or later."

Lin Ming said. But Xiao Moxian suddenly thought of something else. She chuckled and said, "100 million years to refine a True Divinity spirit treasure? He might not have that much time. At that time, who knows who will be refining that Boundless Divine Mountain? What do you think, Big Brother Lin?"

Xiao Moxian playfully smiled as she spoke, her beautiful face shining with a dazzling brilliance. Luckily, she had spoken to Lin Ming with a true essence sound transmission. If she had spoken out loud then those around her would have thought her crazy, and if this were known by those from Divine Void Divine Kingdom then she would have drawn a fatal disaster upon her head!

The meaning behind Xiao Moxian's words was something only Lin Ming could understand. In a sense, Soul Emperor Divine Void was Lin Ming's enemy. Xiao Moxian was confident that within 100 million years, Lin Ming would be able to surpass him in strength, and perhaps even kill him! At that time, Boundless Divine Mountain would no longer be refined by Soul Emperor Divine Void, but by Lin Ming.

Thus, she had dared to say this.

"This treasure is actually quite nice. It could be a good substitute for Primordius Heavenly Palace."

Xiao Moxian said again. Hearing this, Lin Ming didn't know whether to laugh or to cry. Within the entire inner Asura Road, Soul Emperor Divine Void was like a living god. If the average person saw him they would keep silent and even fall to their knees

beneath the presence of such a higher existence. But, Xiao Moxian actually had plans to kill him and steal his treasures. If Soul Emperor Divine Void were to find out that a mere peak late Divine Lord realm girl was thinking of killing him and stealing his items then who knew what expression he would have.

As Lin Ming was at a loss for what to say, an inexplicably vast aura emerged from the center of the sea.

Rosy clouds appeared like smoke, filling the air with a thick mist that shined with a gorgeous light. These peculiar clouds actually emerged from nowhere in the void.

In the skies above, massive swathes black clouds began to gather.

These clouds were not ordinary. Rather, they were filled with roiling lightning, and one could clearly see horrifying blue streaks appear within.

These black clouds contained the purest Thunder Souls of the heavens and earth.

Space began to surge, just like the sea waves beneath it.

“This is...” Lin Ming was stunned. This sort of change in the heavens and earth faintly felt as if another world was trying to push its way into their own!

“Could it be that the final trial is about to begin?”

Lin Ming mumbled to himself, shocked. On the side, Mo Brightmoon was also witnessing the opening of the final trial for the first time. In the past, she had been a low-key person so when would she have had the time or desire to join the crowds and watch such a momentous event?

As the world began to twitch, the people on the observation sea pavilions began to cry out in alarm.

In succession, small groups of people flew out from the observation pavilions and towards the central area of the sea.

Many of these people were young martial artists. Although they were strong, they didn't have background nor the qualifications to enter the Asura Road's final trial. Now that the final trial was opening, although they couldn't enter, they still wanted to fly close to feel the aura and experience the entrance of the final trial for themselves. Because there was an extremely unstable space storm brewing, if they were not careful then they would be sucked in and killed, without even their bones left over.

The final trial was located within its own separate sealed off world, one that appeared in the void and hadn't yet revealed itself. But just the endless rolling thunderclouds in the skies above were enough to startle the mind.

Gradually, more and more people arrived at the center of the sea, making it increasingly noisy.

After an entire day of waiting, the sealed space of the final trial hadn't moved much.

It was only that in the void, a number of strange strengths began to emerge – a pure flame aura that seemed to come from the depths of a volcano, and a dense black and cloudy death energy. The entire area began to feel as if it were the yellow springs underworld, making one feel horrified...

But the proud children of heaven from some great influences did not fear these strengths. Rather, they were overjoyed.

Many people used secret techniques that suited this situation and drew support from these formidable strengths to begin cultivating these strengths.

On the third day –

Rumble rumble rumble!

There was a sound like a great door that was being slowly pushed open by a mystical force.

At the center of the sea, in the void, a pitch black crack began to

appear.

This crack constantly expanded with the surging tides, revealing a darkness that flashed with intermittent sparks of lightning.

The crack began to rapidly expand, finally even blocking out the skies and sun. Countless primal runes appeared, carrying with them the most primeval source strengths of yin and yang, volcanoes, thunderclouds, and much more, seething in the air.

Many people could see that within the unfathomable black crack, there were countless threads of spiritual strength that wove together like mountain ranges, sparkling with light.

This was an endless array diagram and the building-sized runes that formed it shined with a light that even reached through that vast darkness. These runes seemed to contain the infinite possible changes of the great universe, signaling the coexistence of dangers and lucky chances...

Everyone was shocked and also excited – the Asura Road's final trial had finally opened.

Chapter 1671 – Entering the Final Trial

The entrance to the final trial had already opened. An incomparably large pitch black crack tore through the world, as if a colossal pair of hands had reached up into the skies and ripped apart the heavens. Behind this terrifying crack was a strange and incredible world.

Just by looking at this world, one felt their mind, divine soul, and even blood energy be attracted towards it, as if their very being wanted to tear out of their body.

Awoo-! Awoo-!

From behind this black crack, a horrifying sound poured forth like the roars of a primeval great beast.

A massive amount of heaven and earth origin energy and an endless amount of seawater was swallowed into this crack, forming a giant black vortex.

Within this terrifying black vortex, one could see faintly visible phantoms. Within these phantoms there were God Beasts and peerless powerhouses alike. Their powerful auras wove together with the lines of the Heavenly Dao Laws, making even those people watching from several hundred miles away feel like their souls were shaking.

This was the final trial!

Disregarding the dangers and tests within, disregarding the incomparably precious trial qualifications that were ridiculously difficult to obtain, just entering alone was something that many young elites would not be able to summon up the courage to do! This sort of suppressive feeling came from the momentum of the world, making them feel as if they were facing the entire universe!

Out of the hundreds of thousands of people watching from around the Asura Sea, most of them were only observers. None of

them dared to truly break into the entrance of the final trial.

At this time, runes filled the skies and a vast aura spread out in all directions. Several men and women flew through the skies. These men and women wore feathered robes and their heads were adorned by a crown of star-like gems. Their bearing was magnificent and with a single glance one could see they were elite disciples of a great sect!

“Those are people from Divine Void Divine Kingdom!”

As Lin Ming saw these people appear, he also recognized someone – Duke Fullmoon!

“It's that stupid annoying fly again. To think we would run into him here also, it's even worse than being haunted by ghosts!”

Xiao Moxian's expression was filled with disgust. To think that this Duke Fullmoon who had pestered Lin Ming at the Divine Rune City Auction, constantly hounding him like some rabid dog, would actually enter the final trial. As she thought of encountering this person, Xiao Moxian felt as if she had stepped in dog shit.

“Then again, isn't this fellow not so young anymore? How did he obtain the qualifications to enter Divine Void Divine Kingdom's group for the final trial?”

Xiao Moxian asked, puzzled. According to her estimations, World King Fullmoon was at least several thousand years old. Without accumulating strength for so much time, it was impossible for him to become a World King. And one didn't need to be a genius to know that there was extremely intense competition within Divine Void Divine Kingdom for spots in the final trial. There were countless disciples eagerly wanting to enter!

Lin Ming said, “Several thousand years isn't too old. To an Empyrean that lives for a hundred million years, this is still a baby. And in this final trial, normally those that are several hundred years old or thousands of years old will participate for their sect.

For instance, the Good Fortune Saint Son seemed to have entered the final trial around the time he was at the Saint Lord realm...”

Although those that participated in the final trial were young, they normally weren’t as young as Xiao Moxian and Lin Ming. Even with the time in Tragic Death Valley included, Lin Ming was only around 120 years old.

The people flying through the air immediately became the focus of the crowd. Within the group of trial challengers, there was a young man wearing a dragon crown, his long hair trailing behind him as he trod on the wind.

“It’s finally opened! I’ve awaited this day for far too long!”

This young man’s star-like eyes shined with a brilliant fighting spirit. Behind him, the several heroic elites of Divine Void Divine Kingdom, including Duke Fullmoon, were treating him with respect, faintly taking him as their lead.

However, this young man’s cultivation was the lowest amongst everyone from the Divine Void Divine Kingdom; he was only at the half-step Holy Lord realm.

A half-step Holy Lord youth was actually able to command so many Holy Lords and World Kings behind him.

“Who is this person?”

Lin Ming couldn’t help but ask.

“He is the Divine Void Third Crown Prince.”

Mo Brightmoon began to explain. A ‘Crown Prince’ of Divine Void Divine Kingdom was nothing but a title; they in no way referred to the true son of the Soul Emperor Divine Void. Currently, Divine Void Divine Kingdom had seven Crown Princes, each one belonging to one of the seven great divine provinces that comprised it. Every Crown Prince was an elite amongst elites, and they were the future rulers of their lands. Even the next Soul Emperor would be selected from amongst the Crown Princes. As

for the Third Crown Prince, he was considered to be one of the strongest of the seven Divine Void Crown Princes.

“So that’s how it is.” Lin Ming said, suddenly realizing the situation. No wonder this Third Crown Prince was able to command so many people with the lowest cultivation. In a situation where he was able to survive, then it was best to enter the final trial at the youngest age possible in order to obtain greater advantages.

As for someone like Duke Fullmoon who only entered the final trial at the World King realm, the truth was that his talent was considered relatively poor.

“Look behind that Divine Void Crown Prince at the woman following him; that is the Crown Prince’s Imperial Concubine...”

At this time, standing behind Mo Brightmoon, Fanny Fafa suddenly spoke up. His voice was soft and gentle. If one didn’t see him and only listened to his voice, they might even think him a woman.

“The Imperial Concubine’s cultivation is even higher than the Divine Void Crown Prince’s...”

As Fanny Fafa said, there was truly a young woman following behind the Third Crown Prince, her appearance as beautiful as a flower. She exuded sex appeal from every inch of her body and her charming looks were cute and flirtatious. At first glance, one could see she was a truly outstanding existence. And, her cultivation was at the peak Holy Lord realm, a full large boundary higher than the Divine Void Crown Prince.

“It’s not anything strange.” Fanny Fafa chuckled as he spoke. He said in a strange and meaning-filled hushed voice, “You might not know, but that Imperial Concubine was especially raised to be given to the Divine Void Crown Prince so that he could dual cultivate with her. When the Divine Void Crown Prince deflowered the Imperial Concubine, he must have obtained a great advantage!

The Imperial Concubine also has a pure yin physique, but her physique might not be as...pure...as mine... hehehe...”

Listening to Fanny Fafa, Lin Ming nearly choked on himself. He rubbed his nose and subconsciously took a step back. He couldn't help but sigh with emotion. The Divine Void Crown Prince's treatment was far too good. Not to mention the resources he had growing up or the final trial spot he was given, there was even a dual cultivation companion specifically raised for him by his sect.

As Lin Ming was lost in thought, another group flew in from the other side of the skies, standing in sharp opposition to the Third Crown Prince and his troop. This team was led by a fat young man who wore a bright yellow robe embroidered with a five-clawed dragon, just like the robes of a mortal emperor.

“It's people from Heaven Union Divine Kingdom!”

Some people looking cried out in alarm. Heaven Union Divine Kingdom was the only colossal influence in the inner Asura Road that could directly contend with Divine Void Divine Kingdom!

“That fat youth must be Bigflame, the direct disciple of Sovereign Heaven Union. His status is no worse than that of the Divine Void Third Crown Prince...”

“Now there's something fun to watch.”

A mountain couldn't hold two tigers. Moreover, Divine Void Divine Kingdom and Heaven Union Divine Kingdom were in sharp opposition to each other from the start. As the Divine Void Third Crown Prince and Bigflame met each other, their vision seemed to turn into tangible essence that violently collided in the skies!

These two people were both peerless proud sons of heaven from True Divinity influences. With both of them being such proud characters, once they met they naturally had to compete to see who was lower and who was higher!

“You are that so-called Third Crown Prince from the Divine Void

Divine Kingdom?” Bigflame looked at the Third Crown Prince and laughed, clearly not fearing him in the least.

The Divine Void Third Crown Prince sneered and unhurriedly said, “Did you come here especially to provoke me today? How interesting! My Divine Void Divine Kingdom has long been fighting your Heaven Union Divine Kingdom. During every final trial, the fights between juniors make for the fiercest battlefield. There is even a tradition of gambling fights. How about it? Do you want to make a bet with me today?”

“Haha! Aren’t you just overconfident in yourself? My goal this time is to obtain at least 80%. If you want to make a bet with me then you had best consider your own worth first!”

Bigflame arrogantly boasted. The Divine Void Third Crown Prince only laughed in response. 80%? It was like this person thought he would achieve that just by saying it.

“You sure speak a bunch of crap. I have three Nirvana Origin Balancing Pills. Do you want to make a bet?”

“Nirvana Origin Balancing Pill?” Bigflame’s eyes lit up and he licked his lips.

The martial artists watching from around the sea had also heard of the Nirvana Origin Balancing Pill before and their eyes shined in response. This was a pill on the transcendent divine level, but in a True Divinity Holy Land, many transcendent divine pills came from the hands of a True Divinity so the effects were normally much better than those of an ordinary transcendent divine pill.

Only the extreme genius of a True Divinity influence would be able to take out a top pill like this for a bet.

The final trial hadn’t begun and yet there were already sparks flying between these two proud sons of heaven. With this, one could see just how intense the competition in the final trial would be. In addition to the horrifying pressure that exuded from that

soul-freezing entrance as well as the droves of elites that came from all the large influences around the Asura Road, even if many of the martial artists present weren't able to participate in the final trial, just being able to be here to witness such a grand event left them all inexplicably excited!

“Good! If you want to give me pills then I won't stop you!” Bigflame laughed. He led the group from Heaven Union Divine Kingdom towards the incomparably massive black crack that was the final trial, and then they all disappeared without leaving a trace.

Seeing this, the people watching from around the sea all sucked in a deep breath. If they were sucked in by such a terrifying black vortex wouldn't they just lose their lives?

As these people were feeling weak of heart, the Divine Void Crown Prince also led his own people and rushed into the black vortex!

The oppressive feeling that originated from the final trial was simply far too strong. Even the proudest and most extraordinary children of heaven wouldn't say they didn't feel at least a hint of fear upon facing that dreadful black vortex.

As the people from Divine Void Divine Kingdom and Heaven Union Divine Kingdom entered, squads from all the different influences began flying towards the black vortex.

In the midst of all these flying martial artists, Lin Ming actually glanced the form of a blue-clothed woman.

This blue-clothed woman's movements were light and sprightly. In the wild and fierce storm of energy, she seemed as if she were taking a casual stroll through the woods. Her step wasn't quick, but in just several moments she arrived before the massive vortex of the final trial. Then, like a blue flower petal, she was sucked into the vortex, immediately vanishing from sight.

“That woman is...”

As Lin Ming saw this blue-clothed woman, he felt a strange movement in his heart. Just a moment ago, when the high-spirited Bigflame and Third Crown Prince were arguing, Lin Ming hadn't felt much at all. But in this brief moment when that blue-clothed woman fluttered about like a spirit in the wind, this actually left a deep impression on Lin Ming's mind.

Just by seeing this woman's form, Lin Ming felt his heartbeat speed up.

“It's her... she really came...”

In the crowd, there were some well-informed individuals with extremely sharp eyesight. Even from a distance and in the crowds of people, they were able to accurately see this blue-clothed woman's form.

This blue-clothed woman was always low-key in her actions, but many people knew that she was the true lead of the final trial!

“83% completion rate, isn't she satisfied with her past record?” An old man from the side of the Heaven Union Divine Kingdom muttered, his withered lips twitching.

When Bigflame and the Divine Void Third Crown Prince had made a bet, these old men hadn't placed that event in their eyes. To them, it was merely a little spirited tussle between juniors.

But the appearance of this blue-clothed woman actually caused the old man's complexion to change!

“What a dreadful woman... she is even more dreadful than Soul Emperor Divine Void...” A hoarse voice croaked out from behind the old man. This other person was wrapped in a red cloak and his body exuded a terrifying fluctuation of Laws. “Luckily for us she is someone from the 33 Heavens so she will not return to the Asura Road so easily, otherwise, the balance between the saints and spiritas within the inner Asura Road would be broken by her...”

“Mm. The Asura Road is separated from the 33 Heavens by a barrier of Laws that was laid down by the Asura Road Master. No matter how powerful the spirits of the 33 Heavens are, it won't affect us. I just have no idea what completion percent this horrifying woman will have and what rewards she will obtain. Really, she is truly a cause for envy...”

The previously speaking old man said, sighing with emotion. The rich rewards of the final trial were truly something they would be jealous about!

As these two old men were discussing with each other, in the dreadful storm of energy, a squad of five people flew low at sea level as they approached the massive black vortex.

The vortex churned, stretched out for thousands of miles. In front of this black vortex, the five people were nothing but grains of sand in front of a mountain, common and unnoticeable. As they submerged themselves in the black vortex, they didn't even cause a tiny splash.

Lin Ming had finally stepped into the final trial. This would be the last story he left behind in the Asura Road.

Chapter 1672 – The Worries of Old Su

When Lin Ming flew into the final trial he kept a low profile, just like the blue-clothed woman. In addition, he was very fast so there were many people that didn't notice him.

However, there were some considerably strong people with keen eyesight who were familiar with Lin Ming and saw his back.

“That person is... the Divine Runic Masters Guild's Lin Ming?” The one who spoke was a World King powerhouse. He had attended the Divine Rune City Auction in the past so he had an extremely deep impression of Lin Ming.

“Lin Ming? The creator of the Lin symbols?”

Many people had never seen Lin Ming but knew of his name. He was someone who created the myth of gathering 10 billion contribution points in half a month, and this was a story that spread throughout the entirety of the inner Asura Road.

“Isn't he only at the Divine Lord realm? Moreover, he's a divine runic master... is he planning on entering the final trial?”

In everyone's opinion, those young geniuses with extraordinary combat talent wouldn't choose to become divine runic masters.

People had limited time and energy, and the occupation of a divine runic master was an extremely time-consuming ordeal. Even Lin Ming, who possessed the heaven-defying Magic Cube and had absorbed the memories of three divine runic masters, still had his own cultivation speed delayed considerably due to studying the divine runic arts.

Of course, disasters and blessings came together. Because he studied the divine runic arts, Lin Ming had an even deeper understanding of the Asura Laws. These were all things that occurred later.

As for other geniuses they didn't possess something as ridiculous

as the Magic Cube, if they placed all their time in studying the divine runic arts then their combat talent would naturally be left behind.

In many people's opinion, Lin Ming's talent in the divine runic arts had reached the pinnacle of possibility. If he didn't invest a massive amount of time into the divine runic arts then there wouldn't be anyone who believed this.

In this situation, most people subconsciously believed that Lin Ming, who lacked cultivation time, would have a dismally low combat efficiency. Otherwise, he would be too abnormal an existence.

But now he actually flew into the final trial mystic realm with a mere Divine Lord cultivation. This left everyone watching outside stunned. If Lin Ming were to perish inside, wouldn't that just be too great a pity?

"This boy, just what games is he playing..." On the observation pavilion, Divine Rune City's Old Xue and Old Su had also arrived some time ago. These two old geezers had already reached the limit of their cultivation and the only thing that grew for them every day was their hair. They spent most of their time idling about with their hobbies and of course wouldn't miss such a lively event. Since they were here, they naturally spotted Lin Ming.

As Old Su saw Lin Ming fly into the final trial mystic realm, he was a tad worried. There were many Holy Lords and World Kings gathered inside! Moreover, these people were all outstanding characters amongst their cultivation step. And beyond that, there were also the dangers of the final trial. If Lin Ming were to enter with a mere Divine Lord realm cultivation, it would undoubtedly be disastrously risky for him! Old Su didn't want such a divine runic arts prodigy to die inside.

"Hey, don't look down on him. That little fellow's strength isn't as simple as you think it is. We have no idea just what level he is.

We've worried for him before, but it's all been in vain. He's a smart young boy. If he dares to enter the Asura Road then he should have some confidence in his ability. I have no idea what completion percentage he will obtain though... if it's 70% then that really is too abnormal."

Old Xue had an unusual amount of faith in Lin Ming.

"70%... you sure are optimistic. If he can survive that hell and come out alive then I'll already be thanking the heavens and earth. His talent is good, but in the end he is only at the Divine Lord realm. Can he really jump two large boundaries to fight a World King genius? I fear that he will be harmed by someone inside. Even his enemy Duke Fullmoon is in there. If that person is thinking of assassinating Lin Ming..."

As Old Su spoke to here he was a bit scared. In Divine Rune City, Lin Ming would have the protection of the Divine Runic Masters Guild as well as that mysterious master of his.

But in the final trial, Lin Ming could only rely on himself!

Killing in there was not uncommon! Even unparalleled geniuses still needed to be past the Divine Lord realm so they would have the ability to ensure their own safety. Only then would someone dare to enter the final trial.

As these two old men were speaking, within that dreadful vortex of energy that spanned from the heavens to earth, another familiar form appeared.

This form wasn't some stranger; it was the Extreme Star Holy Lands' Suya.

The two old men glanced at each other, surprised. They didn't think that Suya would also enter the final trial.

"This girl's strength cannot be underestimated. Moreover, she is interested in Lin Ming. I hope that she will look after him..." Old Su mumbled. In front of him, the overwhelming storm of energy

became increasingly fierce...

.....

As Lin Ming approached the strange world of the final trial, he felt goosebumps rise all over his body. He could hear a strange sound in the void; it was the incomparably pure sea of energy trembling.

This strange world appeared to be a massive black vortex. Any beam of light that neared it was distorted and swallowed up.

Xiao Moxian anxiously held onto Lin Ming's hand.

As Lin Ming felt Xiao Moxian slip her hand into his, he reached out and gently wrapped his hand across her waist. With his right hand he waved the Phoenix Blood Spear, sending out a wave of energy that gradually calmed down the strange energy.

With a resolute shout, Lin Ming decisively rushed into this unusual new world.

Woosh woosh woosh –

Beside him, a succession of proud heroes from the Asura Road hurtled in, all of them rushing ahead to be first.

The final trial was extremely dangerous.

The final trial had a very high mortality rate.

...These were all things that those who participated were well aware of. But, the heaven-defying lucky chances within were enough to make their eyes go red with envy.

Waves of thick energy crashed onto everyone like a violent stormy sea.

Every wave of energy was like the impact of an ancient beast. Even Lin Ming felt a considerable amount of pressure. However, after having broken into the second Dao Palace, his mortal body was a hundred times more solid than those vicious beasts from ancient times. Although he was hindered, he didn't suffer any

injuries.

Lin Ming spread his hands wide, his muscles and bones popping as they extended outwards, withstanding the violent flow of energy. Xiao Moxian grasped onto Lin Ming, protected beneath him.

Xiao Moxian could feel a warm flow of energy surround her and a smile crossed her face. With her current strength she was more than capable of withstanding this violent flux of energy, but she rather enjoyed this feeling of being protected by Lin Ming.

His speed was fast, and by relying on his bodily strength he was able to drill through the brutal flow of energy like a hot knife in snow.

As the energy flows crashed into him, all of them scattered on his body.

To the rear, Mo Brightmoon and the two others followed close behind.

Thousand Slaughter furiously slashed out with his golden saber, spiritual strength shooting into the skies, creating nine phantoms of ancient demonic taoties.

These taoties were each massive and terrifying. As they appeared they began to desperately swallow up all of the energy around them, treating the flow of energy like delicious food.

These taotie phantoms constantly grew, but in the process of swallowing they were shattered by the impact of energy. As they broke apart they continued to reform; it was a peculiar sight.

But for better or worse, Mo Brightmoon and the others were all sheltered from the violent flux of energy.

Lin Ming noticed this and was slightly surprised. He realized that Thousand Slaughter's golden saber was some rare divine weapon so he paid more attention to it.

As Lin Ming looked at the golden saber in Thousand Slaughter's hand, Thousand Slaughter was also secretly shocked by Lin Ming's strength.

He had once heard Mo Brightmoon mention this youth. Besides the divine runic arts, this Lin Ming had aspects to him that were beyond the norm. He and Fanny Fafa hadn't believed these tales much, but as they saw Lin Ming use his body alone to resist the wild waves of energy whilst his speed was even faster than the taotie phantoms, he was left speechless.

Without a doubt, this Lin Ming was far stronger than he was.

"In this world there are actually people that can be so abnormal just by the strength of their bodies? Luckily, he's our ally." Fanny Fafa's eyes widened as a splendid light flashed in his eyes.

Within the flow of energy, all sense and sight was twisted up by the wild fluctuations around them. Besides their own squad, it was impossible to see any further.

Hu - !

The wild flow of energy finally reached its end. As if finally passing through walls of water, the pressure on Lin Ming's body lightened.

A bizarre land appeared in front of them.

All they saw were a sea of mountain peaks rising up and down in the world like floating islands, vast and endless.

Each mountain peak was covered with vibrant life. There were falling waterfalls and lush green trees. But for some reason, they give off an unrealistic feeling to Lin Ming.

As if everything he saw was fake.

In the distance, he could see surging rivers filled with strange black water.

There, the land was desolate and shrouded in a pale gray

atmosphere.

Lin Ming stood on the ground and let Xiao Moxian down. He carefully observed the world in front of him.

“Weird. These things seem both real and false... Moreover, the energy here is peculiar as if there’s some risk, but for some reason I can’t make out what it is.” Lin Ming mumbled.

Faintly, he could feel an inexplicable danger, as if some viper were eyeing him from a hidden nest.

“Why aren’t we walking?” Thousand Slaughter’s strong and tall body arrived behind Lin Ming. He looked down at him from a towering position, asking him in a low and deep voice.

His high bamboo hat left behind a shadow that covered Lin Ming.

Mo Brightmoon also looked at Lin Ming, a bit puzzled.

Fanny Fafa giggled, “Killing has never been the forte of a divine runic master. Sir Lin, if you don’t wish to lead the way then allow me the honor.”

A feminine voice brought with it a faint yin chill. The sound was like a cold snake running over the body, making one feel alarmed.

As Fanny Fafa laughed, his body fluttered up as if he was weightless. As he passed by Lin Ming, his eyes swept over his body, carrying with it a faint sense of ridicule.

When Lin Ming had demonstrated his amazing bodily strength, he had left Fanny Fafa surprised. This had ignited Fanny Fafa’s competitive spirit, one that all martial artists had.

His methods were all extremely strange. His body emitted strands of silk-like milky white spiritual power that probed the surroundings.

This spiritual power spread out, covering the skies and earth.

Lin Ming’s complexion changed. As he realized what Fanny Fafa was doing, he shouted out, “Don’t move!”

But it was too late.

The milky white threads of spiritual strength spread out and submerged in all directions, vanishing from the world as if something had swallowed them up.

Fanny Fafa's complexion changed. At this time, the originally empty space above them suddenly seemed to be stimulated by something.

The void tore open and an icy cold black energy filled the air.

Four figures threw themselves onto the ground from this black energy, all of them carrying with them a fierce and blood-drenched aura.

Chapter 1673 – Completion Percent

At this time, in front of Lin Ming and his group, four dark gold skeletons appeared.

Each skeleton was filled with a tyrannical and horrifying aura. The void of their sockets shined with a dark reddish black light and they held blood-rusted bone knives in their hands.

With a simple slash, even the void was split asunder. A space storm formed, sweeping towards Fanny Fafa.

This sudden change caught Fanny Fafa by surprise. He released countless milky white threads of spiritual strength that condensed in the air like iron, forming layers and layers around his body.

Clang! Clang! Clang!

The barrier of spiritual strength collided with these bone knives that had torn apart space. A grating metallic sound filled the air as sparks flew out.

At this time, Lin Ming's figure flushed forwards. With a rumbling sound his fist crashed into the skull of one of the skeletons.

After breaking into the Heavenly Retribution Dao Palace, a single wave of his hand could summon 10 billion jins of strength. Even an ancient vicious beast would have been ripped asunder.

Dong - !

As the fist came crashing down, the air blocking its path was squeezed so hard that it became like iron, solidly forming a column of air.

The incomparably tough bones shattered like tofu. Soon after, a second fist came smashing out, even extinguishing the dark ruby flames in the sockets of the skeleton.

Soon after, the Phoenix Blood Spear came thrusting out. In the

blink of an eye, thousands upon thousands of spear strikes pierced out, each spear bringing with it enough strength to crush a planet. The bones they struck were directly blown away.

At this time, Mo Brightmoon also attacked. Her fingers waved and a strange crescent moon-shaped rune appeared atop her fingertips. The rune slashed out into the wind, breaking through the void, the enormous pressure imprisoning a skeleton.

With a loud shout, the crescent moon rune shined with an incandescent brilliance. The sharp blade of the rune tore through the skeleton, the slicing maelstrom of energy turning it into powder.

Thousand Slaughter's figure flashed and he disappeared like gods and ghosts, immediately reappearing behind another skeleton warrior. His golden saber was able to find the weakness of the skeleton warriors in a single stroke – the little wisp of will hidden deep in its body.

The deep black aura of a taotie sparked and an immense swallowing force spread out, swallowing up that wisp of will.

The skeleton warrior's body immediately disintegrated, vanishing into the wind.

The entire process lasted only several breaths of time.

The four skeleton warriors were destroyed and the space in front of the group began to peel apart, breaking down. Jet black runes began to scatter out.

Those distant mountain peaks and the raging black rivers all vanished from sight.

The surroundings also began to dim down.

The boundless death energy and cold yin energy around them suddenly surrounded them from all directions.

Beneath their feet, they were stepping on seals designed in the

images of different kinds of vicious beast, some of them still glowing with a strange and fantastic light.

The entire atmosphere became grim and gloomy.

“This sort of place...” Looking at the pitch black darkness in front of them that seemed to have no end, Xiao Moxian immediately lit a little flame.

Light spread out, scattering all the shadows.

Everyone was startled. They could see that in front of them was a vast tunnel extending to forever, one with scattered skeletons lying all around it.

Each skeleton glowed with its own color. Some were dark gold and some were purple gold.

The purer gold-colored the skeletons, the thicker the death energy emanating from them.

“This should be an ancient grave...” Lin Ming slowly said as he looked at the various sacrificial patterns engraved upon the walls.

“Those mountain peaks and rivers, they should have been an illusion...” Fanny Fafa frowned; he had been completely unable to see through the illusion. Luckily, the golden skeletons weren’t too strong. If they were comparable to a World King, then the battle just now would have been dangerous.

“There are hidden spatial array formations everywhere – do not act rashly. A moment ago, you touched an array formation that transmitted us here.” Lin Ming calmly judged the situation.

Now, he finally knew why he had a restless feeling ever since he arrived.

This was because he discovered that everywhere here vaguely conformed to the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws. Moreover, he didn’t understand many of the Laws here.

These Laws were closely related to the array formations arranged

all over this place. If they were even slightly touched, there would be tremendous problems.

Everyone felt a chill crawl up their backs as they heard Lin Ming speak. If there were array formation traps everywhere then they had to be especially careful as they walked forwards.

However, the Lin Ming standing in front of them seemed to have some strange ability to sense these array formations, as if he had some safeguard against them...

Fanny Fafa and Thousand Slaughter couldn't help but look towards Lin Ming. Although they didn't want to admit it, they had to. This young divine runic master who invented the 'Lin' divine runic symbols was far different from any other divine runic master they had encountered.

"Follow close behind me and pay careful attention to my steps. This array formation... I've seen it in an ancient text before..."

Lin Ming thoughtlessly came up with a reason. Although the others felt that this so-called 'ancient text' that Lin Ming spoke of was a bit odd, at this time they had no reason to doubt him.

Sensing the strange array formation rules around him and also fusing in the power of the Asura Heavenly Dao and the power of illusions, Lin Ming led the way for the group.

After all, his comprehensions of the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws became increasingly profound with every year. Using these comprehensions he was able to break through some of these array formation traps.

Thousand Slaughter followed close behind Lin Ming, maintaining full vigilance of his surroundings even as he guarded Lin Ming's rear. In this final trial, only perfect cooperation would allow them to go further.

Mo Brightmoon was originally an outstanding killer. A crescent moon-shaped ring appeared on her hand, sparkling with light and

emitting traces of spiritual energy that seemed to cut through the void. It was clear that this was a powerful spirit treasure.

As the group followed close behind Lin Ming, they carefully made their way through the tunnel.

As they walked forwards, by relying on Lin Ming's exceptional senses, they were able to discover and avoid several strange space traps.

The pitch black and gloomy road was filled with a pervasive death energy that lingered about.

In the tunnel, the fierce cracks and bloodstains covered the walls. The bloodstains had already dried up and were difficult to discern.

It was clear that they had originated from countless years ago. It was unknown just how many times fierce life or death battles had been fought in this tunnel.

Kacha –

After some time, at a wall in front of them not too far away, an unusual sound echoed out.

There was an extremely strange image on this wall.

The image was painted with a special kind of liquid and was over 30 feet tall. The image showed several demonic beings, all of them with two horns and cruel crimson fangs. This was an image of man-eating fierce ghosts.

Although this was a mere painting, Lin Ming didn't know why but he felt the crimson-eyed fierce ghosts were looking at them, their eyes blazing with green.

“Sir Lin?” Fanny Fafa suddenly asked.

Lin Ming thought for a moment, looking at the fierce ghost drawing in front of him. The Asura Road Master's methods were beyond mortal comprehension. In this final trial, any strange and unusual matter could occur.

Lin Ming and Fanny Fafa could both feel something off with the painting. And as they were looking carefully at it, the panting began to slowly move towards them.

It drew closer and closer.

Everyone raised their guard.

Puff! Puff!

Suddenly, a terrifying black energy burst out from the fierce ghost drawing. Then, the group of demonic fierce ghosts actually leapt out from the drawing.

The air was immediately filled with the thick and pungent scent of blood.

At this time, from the walls around and above them... fierce ghosts popped out from all directions, immediately surrounding Lin Ming, Mo Brightmoon, and everyone else.

Originally they thought there were only several fierce ghosts but there were actually far more than they imagined. Moreover, the way they hid themselves surprised Lin Ming.

Of course, this was only surprise.

The power of the Heretical God Tree began to crazily swell up from within Lin Ming. A bolt of lightning shot out from Lin Ming's palm, rumbling into the fierce ghosts and blowing up a good number of them.

At this time, the crescent moon ring on Mo Brightmoon's hand also emitted a brilliant cyan light.

Each beam of cyan light emitted crackling sounds in the air. As they struck the fierce ghosts, they emitted heaven-shaking explosive sounds.

Fanny Fafa flung his voluminous sleeves forwards. Like a sharp blade, a beam of energy cleaved ahead, sweeping out. As this beam of energy struck the fierce ghosts they were cut in half...

After a moment of chaos, the tunnel was suddenly peaceful. The drawing of fierce ghosts and the blood red lights in their eyes had dimmed down.

“Let’s go.”

Lin Ming rushed ahead, deeper into the tunnel.

Along the way, the group encountered several more waves of danger. But before each battle, Lin Ming was always able to sense it happening and would promptly warn the group.

All of these traps and hidden attacks that were originally impossible to guard against suddenly became far less dangerous.

And, the power of these sneak attacks was inferior to the squad of five. None of them thought that there were any difficulties in the first level of the trial.

But, what they didn’t know was that in other places, there were some weaker squads that were finding it extremely difficult to move forwards. They were given headaches by the illusion array formations here, and some of them had even suffered casualties.

Hu - !

After chopping down a giant-sized bloated corpse, Lin Ming’s palms tingled with numbness. Beside him, Thousand Slaughter and Fanny Fafa were also gasping for breath in great heaving gulps.

They moved forward faster and faster, and the things they met became increasingly dangerous.

Just now they finished dealing with a wave of corpses summoned by an array formation. This attack nearly caused some of them to be injured.

However, luckily Lin Ming’s body was incredibly tough and Fanny Fafa also had a strange supernatural talent that allowed him to imprison his opponents with spiritual power.

With these two abilities, it became much easier for them to deal with these brainless corpses.

Woong – Woong – Woong –

Suddenly, the sound of crashing tides appeared from not too far away.

Everyone look forwards to see a black vortex of energy appear in front of them, just like when they first entered the final trial.

As everyone saw this they were overjoyed. This must be the entrance leading from the first level to the second level!

Everyone quickly leapt forwards.

Within this vortex of energy, there was also a wild flow of energy. But with the experiences of the past, none of them were affected at all by it.

As the waves of energy flowed over Lin Ming, he felt something strange in his mind.

Final trial, completion rate – 20%

Chapter 1674 – Sinister Tricks

Completion, 20%?

Lin Ming perked up and looked towards everyone else. At this time, Mo Brightmoon, Fanny Fafa, and the others were also looking at Lin Ming. It was clear that they also received the information on their completion percentage.

“20%, you?” Lin Ming asked.

“The same.”

Mo Brightmoon and the others glanced at each other. This completion percentage was better than they had anticipated. After all, when walking all the way here the truth was that they hadn't encountered any true dangers at all.

“The completion percentage should be more difficult the later it is. After 80%, it is likely that every point will be more difficult than the last. Our current completion percentage isn't strange at all.”

“Let's go.”

Ho - !

The group finally emerged from the endless wild flow of energy and landed on the ground.

Here, dark winds howled, carrying with them a dry and desolate aura as they swept over the scattered gravel on the ground.

The sky in front of them was unusually high, as blue and transparent as sapphires.

In the far off distance, the shapes of the mountains were vague, resembling the outline of some sleeping great beast.

Beneath their feet was a vast rough land of sand and stone. Thick weeds grew up periodically, many patches as high as a person. There were only several ghostly-looking trees scattered around; the plant life here was sparse.

This was a windswept wilderness, bleak and dreary.

“This is the second level, right?” Xiao Moxian flew up into the skies a little, looking around before falling down next to Lin Ming.

Lin Ming thought for a moment. He didn’t know just how many levels the final trial had. Now that he came here himself, the first few layers weren’t too dangerous at all.

“Don’t worry, let’s rest up first.”

Lin Ming proposed. According to what he knew, the final trial would likely last for several years. Now that everyone had just passed the first level, they had inevitably consumed some of their energy. Since they didn’t know what the second floor was going to be like, they might as well stay here and adjust themselves to their peak condition. This was the safest plan of action.

As Lin Ming spoke, Mo Brightmoon and the others sat in meditation. Without noticing it, Lin Ming had already become the core of the team. On the first level of the smelting trial, everyone had been able to witness Lin Ming’s performance with their own eyes so they naturally listened to his opinion.

However, before the group had meditated for long, a sudden sad and high-pitched scream echoed out from the south of the wilderness.

“Mm?”

Lin Ming frowned. Someone was here!?

In the first level, they had touched a space trap and were transported somewhere else. After that, they hadn’t met any other groups; it was likely they had been cut off from the other groups. But here in the world of the second level, this place was vast and boundless; perhaps there were other squads here.

Should they go and investigate the source of that sad scream?

The other people glanced at each other before looking towards

Lin Ming, wanting to solicit his opinion.

If they went to investigate what happened, it was likely they would encounter some dangers.

“Let’s go take a look. But be a bit more careful. If there’s anything wrong then we’ll flee at once.” Lin Ming succinctly stated.

Woosh! Woosh! Woosh!

The group of people rushed towards the direction of the scream like bolts of lightning.

The group fell onto a barren rocky hill a few miles away, looking towards the area that the horrible scream came from.

Lin Ming’s vision was as sharp as an eagle’s. With one glance he could see a gaping cave going into the ground, one that was covered with a giant bloodstain.

The blood was fresh and hadn’t yet coagulated. Besides that, there weren’t any other clues as to what happened.

It was clear that some macabre death had just occurred here.

At this time, from different directions in the distance, there were the deafening sounds of a sonic boom.

Lin Ming and the others felt their minds chill. They all restrained their auras together.

A milky white spiritual strength emerged from Fanny Fafa’s hands, cutting through the air and thoroughly covering the group’s auras.

Lin Ming couldn’t help but be curious about this milky white spiritual strength. This sort of strange spiritual strength seemed to be Fanny Fafa’s supernatural talent. It was an extremely strange and complex ability. He really had no idea just what cultivation method Fanny Fafa practiced.

“Fourth Junior-apprentice Brother’s soul lamp has been

extinguished and his wisp of soul disappeared here. That bloodstain's aura also belongs to Junior-apprentice Brother. Where is he? Could there be something strange in that cave?"

Both of the two people that flew over were tall and vigorous-looking. One of them was covered with transparent raging flames. These flames exuded a powerful momentum that surrounded the cave with the bloodstain.

The other person held a strange divine runic symbol in their hands.

As the divine runic symbol appeared, it emitted a pitch black fire energy.

"Big Brother Lin, that fellow is using the divine runic symbol you created!" Xiao Moxian whispered to Lin Ming as if she had discovered the funniest thing in the world. Her eyes were locked onto the divine runic symbol in the person's hand.

Lin Ming's vision was keen. He was immediately able to see the 'Lin' character marking the bottom right of the divine runic symbol. Indeed, it was one of the Lin logo divine runic symbols, and also the extremely expensive Heavenly Fire Symbol too. He couldn't help but smile a little upon seeing this.

It seemed that these Lin logo divine runic symbols had spread to the upper levels of the Asura Road. The one who bought the Heavenly Fire Symbols was Empyrean Lionheart, but Empyrean Lionheart's sect wasn't experiencing war anytime soon, so it was possible for them to sell a portion of the divine runic symbols to others.

Then again, Lin Ming had produced just over a thousand of these specialized fifth grade divine runic symbols. If a person was able to possess one then they should have some status in their large influence, otherwise it simply wouldn't be their turn to wield it.

Rumble rumble rumble! The divine runic symbol smashed into

the cave tunnels.

There was a continuous blast of explosions echoing from within. Flames soared to the heavens and all of the soil and rock around the cave was instantly melted by the high temperatures.

Sharp shrieks sounded out. A number of figures fled from the burning cave, their bodies blackened. These creatures had thick tails extending from their backs and had bodies similar to a person's, but their appearance was like a beast.

As these strange beast creatures appeared, runes began to shine on their foreheads. They rushed towards the person that used the Heavenly Fire Symbol, a beam of black lightning shooting out from between their eyebrows towards the two people.

“Shit!”

The trial challenger who held the Lin symbol was angered. Just as he was about to use the Heavenly Fire Symbol in his hand yet again, his companion stopped him. “Don't be in a hurry, we must save it.”

The fierceness of the Heavenly Fire Symbol lay in the fact that even if a martial artist were at their weakest state, completely exhausted of strength, using the Heavenly Fire Symbol would still result in an all-out attack that remained the same no matter what condition the martial artist was in.

They definitely had to save this divine runic symbol as much as they could to use in critical moments to preserve their lives.

Bang!

With an explosive sound, the black light emitted by the monsters fell onto the ground, causing a dreadful eruption of power.

And as this violent fluctuation of energy shook the mountain, more and more monsters began emerging from all over!

The aura of these monsters was actually at the peak Holy Lord

realm! One or two of these monsters wasn't scary, but with dozens of them gathered together, that was truly horrifying!

In particular, the black light these monsters shot out could gather together and produce an effect of locking down space. These black lights were like a giant spider web, making it so that the two martial artists couldn't escape even if they wanted to.

“We must last until Senior-apprentice Brother arrives!”

Even facing such a dangerous situation, the disciple who spoke wasn't afraid at all. Rather, he put forth over 10 array discs and used these array discs to battle these monsters.

As for his companion, he wasn't weak either. He pulled out his sword, displaying fierce and swift sword skills, perfectly coordinating his attacks!

It was clear that those people who had the qualifications to enter the final trial were all extraordinary.

At this time, a keening howl echoed out, as if something was flying towards them and tearing apart the atmosphere as it did. The two martial artists turned and were immediately overjoyed. “Senior-apprentice Brother has arrived!”

Lin Ming and the others turned towards the sound and saw someone rapidly flying towards them. Lin Ming frowned as he did. Really, enemies crossed paths far too often. This person was none other than Duke Fullmoon!

After entering the final trial's first level, because they triggered trap array formations, the disciples of Divine Void Divine Kingdom were transmitted to separate areas. But they were truly incredible individuals. Even though they were split apart they were able to pass the first level of the trial and arrive at the second level.

As soon as they entered the second level they were able to use all sorts of methods to contact their companions. The two disciples who were surrounded by the monsters were subordinates of Divine

Void Divine Kingdom's Nine Nether Province; they were fellow disciples of Duke Fullmoon.

"It's that fellow again, he keeps on haunting us like ghosts!" Xiao Moxian gnashed her teeth, thinking over multiple ways she could try to put Duke Fullmoon to death in this final trial mystic realm.

"Senior-apprentice Brother!" As the two disciples were overjoyed, at this time, some of the monsters that surrounded them began rushing towards Duke Fullmoon!

These monsters were all bloodthirsty to the point of craziness. Before Duke Fullmoon attacked they had already taken the initiative!

"Che!"

Duke Fullmoon immediately slowed down before coming to a stop in the air. Face these twenty some monsters, he frowned, hesitating somewhat.

He could see that these monsters were difficult to deal with. Even for him, they would be a great deal of trouble.

He began considering whether or not acting to save these two junior-apprentice brothers would harm himself. If the risk was too great then he would rather turn tail and run.

But at this time, Duke Fullmoon discovered Lin Ming's existence.

Lin Ming and his group were far too obvious. In their haste when they rushed over they had only restrained their auras and hadn't set up a concealment array formation, thus Duke Fullmoon had detected them.

"It's you!?"

After noticing Lin Ming, Duke Fullmoon was stunned. He clearly didn't expect to see Lin Ming here.

In a spark of lightning, the 20 some monsters had already reached less than a thousand feet in front of Duke Fullmoon.

Duke Fullmoon maniacally grinned. “The road to heaven you choose not to walk, but the gates of hell you would rush through!”

Without further ado, Duke Fullmoon took these monsters chasing after him and rushed towards Lin Ming!

His plan was clear; it was to drag Lin Ming down with him and have him share in the pressure of dealing with these monsters.

If possible, he would even look for a chance to use these monsters to kill Lin Ming or at least severely wound him. At that time, although he might not be able to obtain Lin Ming’s divine runic arts inheritances, he could still obtain the other secrets on his body.

“This damned bastard!”

Xiao Moxian was enraged. This Duke Fullmoon was cunning enough. The area he was flying in was from their rear; this just happened to trap Lin Ming and the others between the monsters!

Chapter 1675 – Blue-clothed Figure

“Haha! Brother Lin, what a small world, we keep meeting each other everywhere!”

Duke Fullmoon wantonly smiled as he rapidly flew towards Lin Ming. At the same time his fingers flexed as he thrust out hundreds and thousands of energy threads.

These energy threads didn't have much power behind them; their only function was to hinder the movements of Lin Ming and his group. Duke Fullmoon wanted Lin Ming to stay here.

In Duke Fullmoon's eyes, Lin Ming was only a divine runic master. No matter how formidable his divine runic arts were, his combat strength was likely nothing to speak of. Lin Ming's cultivation was only at the late Divine Lord realm and he had lived a mere hundred some years of life. Moreover, Duke Fullmoon was sure that Lin Ming had lived an ascetic life for these past years and had invariably invested a massive amount of time in studying the divine runic arts, leaving his combat strength in utter shambles!

Duke Fullmoon already bore a grudge against Lin Ming and he also secretly envied the secrets that Lin Ming possessed. Even if there were not secrets on Lin Ming's body, if he killed Lin Ming he would still be able to obtain the massive amount of wealth and rare materials he kept on him.

This final trial was the best chance to kill Lin Ming. He didn't need to consider the Divine Runic Masters Guild nor did he need to consider the mysterious master that stood behind Lin Ming. As Duke Fullmoon thought of all this, a fierce smile crossed his face!

“You little shit, you want to die!?”

Fanny Fafa's eyebrows rose in anger. He had walked through the Asura Road for many years and assassinated many people, but rarely had anyone tried to plot against him.

Now that this Duke Fullmoon was dragging many monsters towards them, it was clear he wanted to use them as his spear and then profit from their disaster.

Although Fanny Fafa didn't fear these monsters, he couldn't swallow the rage from being used by others!

“Don't move!”

At this time, Lin Ming stopped Fanny Fafa!

In this situation, as long as they attacked they would fall into the trap because no matter who they attacked, it would be disadvantageous for them. If they attacked Duke Fullmoon, those monsters would rush towards them. But, if they attacked the monsters, that would be the same as doing exactly what Duke Fullmoon wished for and acting as his spears.

No matter what, if Lin Ming and the others attacked, they would definitely fall into a brutal melee with the monsters.

And now, more and more monsters were catching up. Although the combined strength of Lin Ming's group was more than enough to fight these monsters, participating in such a meaningless fight in this danger-ridden final trial wasn't wise at all. If they consumed too much strength and encountered some other trap, that would be far more dangerous for them.

“Sir Lin?” Fanny Fafa asked, puzzled as he kept looking at the 20 some monsters that Duke Fullmoon was bringing towards them. If Lin Ming didn't attack, wasn't that the same as waiting for death?

“Allow me.”

Lin Ming stepped forwards and stood in front of Fanny Fafa. He took out a divine runic symbol from his spatial ring. This divine runic symbol had a 'Lin' character that shined on the bottom left!

In the past when Lin Ming left Divine Rune City and returned to Tragic Death Valley to rescue Empyrean Divine Mist, he had cultivated in Tragic Death Valley for a considerable amount of

time. In that period he had drawn up a massive number of divine runic symbols in preparation for this final trial.

This divine runic symbol was named Heaven's Divide. It was a peak fifth grade divine runic symbol and also an improved divine runic symbol. Moreover, it could only be used one time!

For a divine runic symbol to be used once, that meant that its complete strength would erupt!

As Lin Ming crumbled the divine runic symbol, countless lines of the Asura Laws spread outwards, surrounding his group, overlapping again and again!

For a time, space seemed to tear apart. Fanny Fafa, Mo Brightmoon, and the others all felt as if they were instantly placed into a different dimension!

“This is...”

Fanny Fafa, Mo Brightmoon, and the others were all surprised. They looked towards Lin Ming with disbelief.

This move was marvelous.

The torn space distorted, becoming a separate world. This space isolated all origin energy fluctuations even as it served as the best protective barrier!

This was a top grade group-wide defensive divine runic symbol!

In that moment, Duke Fullmoon looked on helplessly as the originally nearby Lin Ming and his group suddenly disappeared into thin air!

“What!?”

Duke Fullmoon's complexion immediately became extremely ugly.

He was well aware that Lin Ming had hidden himself in a spatial tear in front of him, but there wasn't anything he could do about it!

He had personally witnessed the power of Lin Ming's divine runic symbols himself. If an ordinary World King powerhouse were to use the Space Laws to conceal themselves, then Duke Fullmoon had the confidence he had the methods to break through it. But facing Lin Ming's divine runic symbols, Duke Fullmoon didn't have the same confidence.

Moreover, there were also 20 some monsters chasing behind him. With Duke Fullmoon's strength, where would he have the ability to defend against these monsters and unravel Lin Ming's divine runic symbol at the same time?

“You damned little beast!”

Duke Fullmoon cursed out loud. He had only been thinking about Lin Ming's abhorrent combat strength and had neglected the fact that Lin Ming's divine runic arts were able to make up for those flaws. If he just thought about this then he would have realized Lin Ming inevitably carried with him a massive number of divine runic symbols, and the various uses of these divine runic symbols and their might could be imagined!

No matter who it was, wanting to attack Lin Ming wouldn't be simple at all!

As Duke Fullmoon thought of this person who was clearly far inferior to him and yet was able to use luxurious divine runic symbols as if they didn't cost money at all, he felt incomparably wronged. There was simply nothing he could do about this.

But at this moment, Duke Fullmoon had no time to think about these matters, because those 20 some monsters chasing him from behind had already surrounded him!

“Damn!”

Because of Duke Fullmoon's rage and grief, he already had a green-tinted face. His current predicament wouldn't be easy to solve no matter what!

Woosh! Woosh! Woosh!

Without saying anything, those monsters that chased after Duke Fullmoon opened their mouths and began releasing a strange light.

These beams of light were extremely compact. As they cut through the void they emitted a sound like sabers scratching on glass, grating to the ears!

Duke Fullmoon immediately fell into a fierce struggle!

His strength began to rapidly deplete.

Not just that, but more and more monsters began catching up. Duke Fullmoon felt nothing but deep regret. If he had known that this would happen then he would never have come to rescue those two trouble-stirring junior-apprentice brothers of his!

The truth was that the second level wasn't too risky to begin with. But, Duke Fullmoon's two junior-apprentice brothers were too arrogant and conceited in their own strength and abilities and had gone too far in their actions as a result. Instead of avoiding these monsters, they had used Lin Ming's Heavenly Fire Symbol to blow apart their den. If they hadn't done this then they wouldn't have fallen into such a bitter battle.

"If I'm in a bad situation, then don't think you lot can stay uninvolved!"

Duke Fullmoon was truly incredibly strong. Even though he was under siege from these monsters, he was still able to rush through them and constantly guide these monsters and their black beams of light towards the area Lin Ming was at.

However, how could the improved one time use Heaven's Divide symbol that Lin Ming carefully drew up be so easily defeated?

In particular, these monsters only had brute force behind their skills; they didn't have a deep understanding of the Laws.

Lin Ming cleverly used the Space Laws contained within

Heaven's Divide to twist the nearby space, causing those beams of black light to bend around the group's location.

From the outside, it was like the area Lin Ming was in was only the surface of water. As the beams of light struck the barrier, they refracted, passing around Lin Ming's group and causing no harm to any of them.

"Big Brother Lin, you're so fierce!" Xiao Moxian hugged Lin Ming's arm.

In terms of strength, Lin Ming was formidable. But because he frequently entered dangerous situations that far surpassed his level, even his heaven-defying strength was often lacking.

However, Lin Ming was able to make use of all sorts of other methods, finding a singular path in a supposedly impossible situation to turn the tide and completely overcome the impossible.

"This move... is a bit fierce, haha..."

Fanny Fafa sighed in praise. Mo Brightmoon also let out a sigh of relief as she looked towards Lin Ming with a strange light in her eyes.

However, Lin Ming shook his head, "This sort of divine runic symbol isn't easy to create. My time and materials were limited so I was only to draw up a few of them. Every time I use one I'll have one less. Moreover... bending these black lights will continuously consume the energy within the divine runic symbol. If this continues, I estimate the barrier will collapse within an incense stick of time..."

Lin Ming's voice was indifferent. He didn't reveal any pride or contentment at using this ingenious method. Instead, all there was in his eyes was a faint killing intent. This killing intent was focused on Duke Fullmoon!

Lin Ming was disgusted by this person to begin with. And today, this person even tried to use these monsters to kill him, arousing

Lin Ming's killing intent even further!

“Sir Lin, could you be thinking of...” The normally silent Thousand Slaughter suddenly spoke as he vaguely sensed Lin Ming's intentions.

“Please, just call me Lin Ming. And yes, you should all be prepared. After an incense stick of time passes, we'll all attack together and cut down that Duke Fullmoon! He isn't weak. Amongst ordinary World Kings, he can be considered amongst the top! Do not underestimate the enemy!”

Mo Brightmoon and the two companions she brought over were extraordinary existences amongst ordinary World Kings. However, Duke Fullmoon was a disciple from a massive influence so he would definitely have some life-saving methods up his sleeve. Wanting to kill him here wouldn't be easy at all.

Lin Ming quietly traced his spatial ring. Within this spatial ring were many offensive divine runic symbols. Once the Heaven's Divide barrier collapsed, he would not only attack with his full strength but also support it with the attack of divine runic symbols!

As Fanny Fafa witnessed Lin Ming's various methods as well as his deep eyes that locked onto Duke Fullmoon like a viper eyeing its prey, he felt an inexplicable chill crawl up his spine.

He discovered that even though he had given a sufficiently high appraisal of Lin Ming, the result was that he had never been able to clearly see the abilities of this youth from beginning to end. To be an enemy of this young man was a truly terrifying matter.

Like this, half an incense stick of time passed...

Duke Fullmoon's entire body was stained with blood. The more he fought the more ruthless and vicious his moves became. Just by himself, he had killed over 10 of these monsters! But because these monsters continuously caught up to him, their numbers never

seemed to drop.

“Damn it all!”

Duke Fullmoon’s complexion became increasingly angry. At this time, he already felt that it was impossible for him to kill off these monsters. And if he wanted to escape, it wouldn’t be easy with the spider web of black lights covering everywhere around him. In order to withdraw he would definitely have to pay some price!

He would need to burn some of his blood essence or use the life-saving cards obtained from his sect.

As Duke Fullmoon thought of using up one of these cards, he felt as if someone had pulled out his heart. He had two life-saving cards in hand and each one was exchanged with a massive amount of sect contribution points. These cards were to be used in the final trial. If he were to use one up in just the second level of the final trial, how could he not feel pain?

As he was burning with anger, his eyes blazing with rage, he passed all of this hate onto Lin Ming. If Lin Ming wasn’t tricky and cunning and had obediently acted as his spear, then how would he have ended up in such a horrible situation?

As Duke Fullmoon grit his teeth and was prepared to take out one of these cards, at this time, a chilly blue light covered this entire desolate and blood-drenched land.

This blue light was clear and ephemeral, seeming as if it had flowed forth from the furthest stretches of time, bringing with it a strength that stunned the mind.

This blue light was incomparably cold. But at the same time, it was as vivid as a spring breeze, carrying with it a vibrant life force!

Wherever it visited, plant life began to bloom upon the bleak land. Strange and unusual ice flowers, cold plums, and snow lotuses began to appear in abundance. For a time, the entire sky was covered in an ethereal haze of cold frost!

As those rage-filled monsters were covered in this cold blue light, all of them immediately stiffened. They seemed to lose all desire to attack and instead became extremely docile.

The dozen some monsters were all covered with ice crystals. As if enthralled by the blue light, they all knelt on the ground, lying prostrate as if they were worshipping their totem.

“This... what sort of method is this!?”

Behind the protective barrier of the divine runic symbol, Lin Ming was astonished. If the master of this blue light had used some thunder technique to annihilate all of these monsters then he wouldn't have been surprised at all.

But, she was actually able to compel these monsters to lose all desire to attack and kneel in worship instead.

This was a technique he had never heard of before!

“Could this be... a spiritus ability?”

Lin Ming's thoughts stirred. Because he cultivated the Divine Mist Heart Mantra, Lin Ming knew that when a spiritus martial artist's soul force reached a terrifying boundary, they could use their powerful soul force to affect the mind of an enemy, even control them! Weaker martial artists could have their souls captured by this soul force and be turned into living puppets without realizing it.

“This method, could it be her...?”

Lin Ming's mind chilled. He immediately recalled the figure of the blue-clothed woman.

At that time, amongst the numerous heroic elites that had plunged into the black vortex of the final trial, only the blue-clothed woman had left a profound impression upon Lin Ming.

She kept a low profile and Lin Ming had only caught a glimpse of her. But whether it was the Divine Void Third Crown Prince or

Sovereign Heaven Union's direct disciple, Bigflame, Lin Ming could feel that they were both inferior to even 1% of this blue-clothed woman.

In the next moment, Lin Ming was able to confirm his suspicions.

On the distant horizon, there was a peerless woman in a blue skirt flying towards them as she stepped on the wind.

Her face was shrouded in a strange wave of energy, making her appearance seem hazy and unreal.

However, her figure was tall and graceful. Her black hair fell down like a waterfall and accentuated her abundant chest. Her entire body exuded a mysterious and sacred aura, forming a peculiar contrast.

As Duke Fullmoon saw this blue-clothed woman, he was immediately ecstatic.

“Soul Empress, over here!”

The truth was that Soul Empress Sheng Mei couldn't be considered an ally of Divine Void Divine Kingdom. As for Duke Fullmoon, who was merely a subordinate of Divine Void Divine Kingdom's Nine Nether Province, there was absolutely no way he could come into contact with an existence like her.

The reason Sheng Mei had rescued Duke Fullmoon was only because she owed Soul Emperor Divine Void a favor.

Her steps were soft and supple. Although she was originally on the horizon, in just several steps she arrived in front of everyone. Like a fairy maiden descending from heaven, she floated down, landing on the earth.

Chapter 1676 – The Gate of Laws

Blue light shined on the vast wilderness. Ice flowers and snow plums grew everywhere...

Soul Empress Sheng Mei fell upon the largest snow lotus. Her slender feet were like a butterfly, her lithe body seeming to have no weight.

“Soul Empress!”

The happy Duke Fullmoon hurriedly bowed, his face full of attentiveness.

What kind of character was Soul Empress Sheng Mei? Even Soul Emperor Divine Void had to treat her with respect. It could even be said that she was an existence on the same level as Soul Emperor Divine Void!

In front of Soul Empress Sheng Mei, Duke Fullmoon was nothing more than a little ant. For Sheng Mei to personally rescue him, Duke Fullmoon felt extremely flattered.

Sheng Mei didn't look at Duke Fullmoon. Rather, she faintly glanced over at Lin Ming's direction.

Within the space distortion, Lin Ming frowned. This woman was terrifying beyond description. Without a doubt, the five of them combined together wouldn't be her match.

Lin Ming hesitated for a moment and then lifted the barrier of Heaven's Divide. Towards this dreadful person, a barrier on this level wasn't any different from paper.

As he looked at Sheng Mei, he was put under a dreadful pressure!

He couldn't see this woman's strength at all!

Sheng Mei stared deeply into Lin Ming's eyes. A strange color appeared within her smoky eyes.

“You... what is your name?”

Sheng Mei suddenly asked for Lin Ming's name. This caused Lin Ming to feel a sudden chill cross his body. It had to be known that within this final trial that was filled with numerous young elites, he was extremely common and unnoticeable. Beside those people who participated in the Divine Rune City Auction during that eventful year as well as those who kept up with news about the divine runic arts, very few people bothered paying attention to Lin Ming.

The Divine Void Third Crown Prince and Bigflame, the direct disciple of Divine Emperor Heaven Union, were both the leads of this final trial.

But even these two leads weren't able to enter Soul Empress Sheng Mei's eyes.

Yet, currently, Sheng Mei had taken the initiative to ask Lin Ming for his name. This was similar to a human asking an ant for their name. Lin Ming couldn't help but keep his mind and heart vigilant about this change in events.

He took a deep breath, suppressing the turbulent thoughts in his heart and calmly saying, "My name is Lin Ming!"

Sheng Mei softly hummed. "Your soul is quite special; it is a bit like a special soul physique recorded in the Holy Scripture of my people. But what a pity, you are nothing but a human so your soul is destined to only be alike. If you were a spiritus then I might have accepted you as my disciple..."

As Sheng Mei spoke, she lightly smiled. This was a smile of pure appreciation. But as this smile fell into Lin Ming's eyes, his heart shook!

Special soul physique recorded in the Holy Scripture!?

Was it... the Magic Cube!?

Lin Ming remembered that the second time he had seen Empyrean Divine Mist, he had said that there was an ancient text

which existed within the spiritas legends – the Spiritas Holy Scripture. Within the Spiritas Holy Scripture, the existence of the Magic Cube had been recorded – it was known as the Stone of Eternal Life.

When Sheng Mei had mentioned the Holy Scripture, it was 99% likely that it was the Spiritas Holy Scripture that Empyrean Divine Mist had mentioned. Was this so-called special soul physique spoken of within the Holy Scriptures also related to the Magic Cube?

In that moment, Lin Ming could feel a cold sweat dripping from his palms!

Luckily, even this terrifying woman in front of him didn't realize the existence of the Magic Cube in his inner world.

Perhaps because Lin Ming had possessed the Magic Cube for such a long time, his soul might have been subtly influenced by the Magic Cube. This made Sheng Mei mistake Lin Ming's soul for having some similarities to the special soul physique recorded in the Spiritas Holy Scripture.

This sort of soul was named the Eternal Soul. The rarity of such a thing couldn't be described with words!

Compared to that, Xiao Moxian's half God Beast bloodline was nothing at all. Although a half God Beast physique was rare, it wasn't strange for it to occur every billion years in a universe. But as for the Eternal Soul recorded in the Spiritas Holy Scripture, it hadn't appeared in the entire 33 Heavens for several great calamities in a row.

Thus, Sheng Mei only casually spoke. She would never believe that a human like Lin Ming would possess the Eternal Soul that was mentioned in the legends of the spiritas, something that had already vanished from existence 10 billion years ago.

However, after hearing Sheng Mei's words, Duke Fullmoon felt

an intense surge of jealousy.

This was clearly the first time that Sheng Mei had seen Lin Ming, but she had actually said that she would accept Lin Ming as a disciple if he were a spiritus!

Duke Fullmoon knew that Sheng Mei was a person whose heart was higher than the heavens. In her entire life she had never received a disciple, much less a male disciple!

If Duke Fullmoon could become Sheng Mei's disciple, he would even be willing to sacrifice half his lifespan!

But after she appeared, she didn't even bother glancing at someone like Duke Fullmoon who was on 'her' side, but had instead spoken to an 'outsider' like Lin Ming. This caused Duke Fullmoon to feel somewhat ill.

Lin Ming was only a human, so why?

Lin Ming's divine runic arts were fierce but to someone on the level of Sheng Mei, what meaning did the divine runic arts have?

As Duke Fullmoon was depressed, Lin Ming stood rigidly on the ground. His inner world's fluctuations had been reduced to their lowest levels, and even as he maintained absolute vigilance he kept his appearance as calm as he could.

Then, Sheng Mei finally turned, about to leave.

Lin Ming's mind relaxed a little. To him, every second felt like a year. He was looking forwards to this terrifying woman disappearing as hastily as she came.

But then, Duke Fullmoon called out to Sheng Mei.

"Soul Empress!"

Duke Fullmoon summoned the courage to say. Lin Ming was nervous as he heard this. He really wanted to just kill this damned idiot and get him over with.

"What is it..."

Sheng Mei turned her head and glanced at Duke Fullmoon.

Seeing Sheng Mei's cold eyes on him, Duke Fullmoon suddenly felt weak at the knees. He gulped and stuttered out, "T-those people over there, they..."

For a time, Duke Fullmoon was at a loss for words. There was no way he could ask Sheng Mei to help him kill Lin Ming, but he wasn't willing to miss such an opportunity.

Sheng Mei faintly frowned. "You aren't asking me to handle your grudges for you... are you?"

Sheng Mei could immediately see that Duke Fullmoon had a grudge with Lin Ming and the others.

"No... I wouldn't dare!" Duke Fullmoon quickly denied. Just what status did he have? He was already thanking the heavens and earth that Sheng Mei had saved him. He and Sheng Mei weren't even from the same influence, so what qualifications did he have to ask her to help him take revenge?

As for using the secrets on Lin Ming's body to tempt Sheng Mei, Duke Fullmoon didn't know whether these supposed secrets really existed or not.

He only thought that Lin Ming was far too young to have such extraordinary skill in divine runic arts. As for what was going on with Lin Ming, Duke Fullmoon couldn't say it clearly himself.

To the influences within the Asura Road, the greatest value that Lin Ming possessed was to draw up divine runic symbols and create a massive amount of wealth. But, what lure did wealth have to someone like Sheng Mei, whose status was similar to a True Divinity level character?

It was likely there was nothing on Lin Ming's body that could tempt Sheng Mei.

As Duke Fullmoon was lost in thought, Sheng Mei had already floated away. Left behind, Duke Fullmoon watched Sheng Mei's

parting back with an ugly complexion.

He looked at Lin Ming and Lin Ming looked at him.

Duke Fullmoon had three people on his side; Lin Ming had five.

As their eyes met in midair, sparks flashed between them, followed by surging killing intent!

They each wanted to kill the other!

At this time, Lin Ming was considering what his chances were of killing Duke Fullmoon in a situation where he couldn't sneak attack him. And, would Duke Fullmoon's other squad members catch up? And most importantly of all, Lin Ming didn't know about how Soul Empress Sheng Mei would take this. Was she planning on guaranteeing the lives of Divine Void Divine Kingdom's disciples in this smelting trial?

All of these doubts made it so that Lin Ming didn't attack.

As for Duke Fullmoon, he dreaded the many divine runic symbols Lin Ming had on him, as well as the several companions with him.

"You little bastard, consider yourself lucky!" Duke Fullmoon sneered. "You think you can do whatever you want just because of some divine runic symbols? You should remember to save them as much as you can and not use them all up, because if that happens I will kill you as easily as butchering a dog or a chicken!"

"Really, aren't you afraid that the wind will cut your tongue with your constant babbling? I'm confused, just which family was so lazy as to forget to tie up your chain. As a dog, you should have the awareness of a dog. Just who do you think you are? If it weren't for the Soul Empress appearing just now you would have already died." Xiao Moxian had never been someone who was willing to lose in a war of words. As Duke Fullmoon started cursing at Lin Ming, she immediately opposed him.

"Heh, you bitch, aren't you Lin Ming's woman? I will soon make you regret choosing this kind of man. At that time... you might

even enjoy it.”

Duke Fullmoon lecherously smiled before he turned and left.

The two other disciples of Divine Void Divine Kingdom hurriedly followed behind, keeping a close tab on their surroundings.

Seeing the three people about to vanish, Mo Brightmoon felt her sword blade. She frowned, “Are we going to let them leave like this?”

“Just this time.” Lin Ming indifferently said. Duke Fullmoon was already on his kill list. It was just that there were too many variables involved so he hadn’t attacked.

.....

After the brief battle just now, Lin Ming’s squad continued forwards carefully.

If they could avoid the monsters on the second floor they would avoid them. They tried to keep the battles to a bare minimum.

Like this, they went deeper and deeper into the wilderness. And the deeper they went, the thicker the chaotic energy in the skies became.

In the endless distance, they could vaguely see the appearance of a massive metal door, like a mountain range that stretched to the ends of time.

Waves of profound and quiet runes scattered out from the metal door. They were incomparably vast and mysterious.

Seeing these metal doors that constantly emitted a golden light, Mo Brightmoon’s eyes flashed, a strange color covering them.

“The Gate of Laws... according to the information I purchased before, this is the entrance to the third level. The Gate of Laws that leads to the third level is particularly special...”

“Oh? Special?” Lin Ming stopped and asked, startled.

“That’s right. Starting from the Gate of Laws, the disparity between the different martial artists in the final trial will be pulled even further apart... the strong will be better, obtaining even higher points and better rewards. As for the weak, they will be directly eliminated.”

Mo Brightmoon said, a restless anticipation in her eyes. With her own level of talent, what sort of scene would she see when passing through the Gate of Laws...?

Chapter 1677 – Difficulty and Completion

Percentage

As Lin Ming walked towards the Gate of Laws, increasingly powerful auras appeared one after another. The powerhouses that had completed the first level and were scattered over the world of the second level began converging towards the Gate of Laws.

These people were all extraordinary disciples of their large influences. After passing through the fierce battles of the first and second floor, not too many of them perished. Only some extremely unlucky martial artists who had been surrounded by monsters had died.

“It’s that fellow, the whatever Crown Prince from Divine Void Divine Kingdom is coming!”

Xiao Moxian suddenly commented as they neared the Gate of Laws. Lin Ming looked back to see several men and women wearing feather robes with star crowns on their heads. They were surrounding a young man wearing a dragon crown with his hair hanging loose around him. This young man stood atop the head of a silver python that was as large as a mountain. The silver python twisted as it moved forwards, leaving deep gullies in the earth.

This young man was dashing and high-spirited, showing disdain for all heroes.

He was the Divine Void Third Crown Prince!

As the Divine Void Third Crown Prince appeared, so did Duke Fullmoon.

At this time, Duke Fullmoon was flying high in the air as he followed behind the Third Crown Prince. There was a faint smile on his face as he looked towards the people up ahead with a commanding gaze.

The other disciples of Divine Void Divine Kingdom didn’t dare to

stand upon the head of this giant silver python. This silver python was the contract beast of the Third Crown Prince. It was an arrogant beast that didn't allow anyone else besides its master to ride it.

Although this silver python wasn't a God Beast, it had an ancient bloodline relationship with a God Beast. It was said that if this silver python was able to grow four feet and grow horns atop its head, it would evolve into a silver dragon. Of course, the road to that path was beset with difficulties and the chances of it happening were impossibly low.

And at this time, a phoenix-like cry spread through the air. Brilliant waves of flames rolled up in the skies as a massive phoenix-looking firebird appeared. Just by flying, this firebird filled the skies with raging flames, immediately causing the temperature of the surroundings to become boiling hot.

On the back of this firebird was a fat youth wearing a bright yellow five-clawed dragon robe. This fat youth was Bigflame, the direct disciple of Heaven Union Divine Kingdom's Divine Emperor.

The Divine Void Third Crown Prince, Bigflame, the top disciples of the True Divinity influences had arrived.

"Bigflame, you arrived here quite fast. I thought perhaps your luck might be worse than I thought and that you could be surrounded by the monsters here. If that were to happen, your fat body would disappear..."

The Third Crown Prince taunted as he saw Bigflame show up.

"Haha! I must thank the Crown Prince for worrying over me. When I arrived I was indeed frightened miserable. Luckily, I managed to somehow stumble my way over here. How could I compare to someone as peerlessly wise and skilled as Crown Prince your highness? You could likely lay down on the floor and still arrive here. Ah, that's right, at this Gate of Laws, does the peerlessly wise and skilled Crown Prince plan on challenging the

heaven-step difficulty level?” Bigflame’s words were kind and subservient, but if one wasn’t an idiot they could clearly hear the taunting within them.

The Divine Void Crown Prince frowned as he heard these words.

He knew that the most important part of Bigflame’s words was at the end. Bigflame wanted him to challenge the heaven-step difficulty of the Gate of Laws!

The final trial’s Gate of Laws was extremely special. Before this, all trial challengers were placed together and could pass levels in groups. But at the Gate of Laws, every person would be separated and also had to choose their difficulty.

No matter what difficulty they chose, as long as they passed through the Gate of Laws they would reach the third level.

What was different was that the higher the difficulty one chose at the Gate of Laws, the better the rewards would be and the higher the completion percentage would be.

Of course, this also meant greater dangers!

Every difficulty was divided into four possibilities – perfect completion, partial completion, barely passing, and death.

If one perfectly completed their difficulty, their rewards would be higher and the final trial completion percentage would be higher!

At partial completion, rewards and completion percentage would be reduced.

As for barely passing, there wouldn’t be any reward and the given completion percentage would also be the lowest. Still, they would be able to safely enter the third level.

As for death, there was no need to mention it. It was the worst result in the Gate of Laws, where one perished within!

The heaven-step difficulty was one of the highest levels of

difficulty within the Gate of Laws.

Since ancient times, countless proud children of heaven had participated in the final trial. But, those that dared to choose the heaven-step difficulty were extremely rare!

As for those who had chosen it, there had never been anyone who had managed to perfectly complete it. Just partially completing it and surviving through the end was an extraordinary result!

Although the Divine Void Crown Prince was arrogant, he was well aware of his own abilities. He estimated that if he chose the heaven-step difficulty, the most he could do was just barely pass it or only complete a small percentage of it.

Although he would likely be able to reach the third level, the completion percentage would be too low and the rewards wouldn't be too great either. Moreover, he would also have to risk a high chance of dying there. Who would be willing to do something so stupid?

This Bigflame was clearly trying to stir him up with dark intentions in his mind. The Divine Void Crown Prince wasn't an idiot so why would he fall for such an obvious ploy?

Instead, he sneered and mockingly said, "I have self-awareness of my own abilities. I naturally do not have the skill to challenge the heaven-step difficulty, but I am more than capable of playing in the earth-step difficulty. If Brother Bigflame is so proud of your own skills, then you should certainly try the heaven-step difficulty yourself, haha!"

The Divine Void Crown Prince's voice was extremely loud. At this time, before the Gate of Laws, many disciples of large influences had gathered and they were all looking at him.

These people knew that Bigflame and the Third Crown Prince already had a gambling bet between themselves. Now, in front of the Gate of Laws, they were still stood in sharp opposition!

“Hehe, how interesting, two descendants from True Divinity level influences are trying to provoke each other into entering the heaven-step difficulty of the Gate of Laws.”

Not too far away, many people were watching the fun play.

“They’re just messing around and trying to one-up each other. They both know that trying to provoke the other party won’t have any effect. With their strength, they might be able to perfectly complete the earth-step difficulty, but as for the heaven-step difficulty, just forget about it!”

As these people were speaking, their discussions naturally fell into Lin Ming’s ears.

As he listened to these people speak and in addition to the explanation that Mo Brightmoon had given him, Lin Ming already had a rough understanding of the Gate of Laws.

When choosing a difficulty in the Gate of Laws, it was best to choose one that could be perfectly completed. In that way, one would have the greatest harvests. At the very worst, one had to choose a difficulty at which they could at least achieve 90% or above.

As Lin Ming was thinking this, a sudden sound of footsteps left him feeling icy cold!

In front of the Gate of Laws he could see a blue-clothed woman floating high in the air. Her body seemed to merge with her surroundings, making it difficult to notice her existence.

Lin Ming could confirm that just a moment ago, this blue-clothed woman hadn’t been there. But now, she had suddenly emerged in the skies above, as if she had teleported there.

“Soul Empress!”

As the blue-clothed woman appeared, the Divine Void Crown Prince quickly hurried forwards to greet her. In front of her, he didn’t show any arrogance at all. He had already witnessed the

attitude with which Soul Emperor Divine Void had treated her.

Sheng Mei faintly looked over at the Third Crown Prince and slightly bowed.

As for the previously flagrant Bigflame, he had no intention of moving forwards. Instead, he looked on from the distance, utterly silent.

Bigflame knew that in the 33 Heavens, the saints were at war with the spiritas! As a saint from the Asura Road, he wouldn't be sucked up into their affairs. Even so, it was likely that this Sheng Mei didn't have any good impressions of him at all. It was best to hide away as much as possible.

“Who is that blue-clothed woman? Why would the Third Crown Prince be so respectful to her?”

Because Sheng Mei kept a low profile, many martial artists didn't recognize her. As they saw that even the Third Crown Prince was bowing to her, they were stunned.

“Don't you know who she is? Haven't you heard that several years ago in the Divine Void Divine Kingdom, there was a grown Ice Phoenix that descended upon their land, even forcing Soul Emperor Divine Void out of his seclusion? And that woman is the person who arrived on that Ice Phoenix! She is the one who holds the record for the highest completion percentage, 83%! I heard that for these last several years she has been staying at Divine Void Divine Kingdom and her status is on par with that of Soul Emperor Divine Void!”

“What!? This... the record of the highest completion percentage? Isn't she the one that already obtained a completion rate of 83%? Why would she come to the Asura Road's final trial again? Isn't that just a waste of qualifications?”

Many people asked, puzzled. The Asura Road was simply far too large. Even if Sheng Mei had caused a giant stir in Divine Void

Divine Kingdom, many people still hadn't heard of her.

"Hehe, it's not as simple as you think!" The one who spoke before mysteriously said. He began to whisper in a cryptic tone, "If she came again, then she naturally believes 83% is not her limit! This mysterious spiritas woman has an extremely unique cultivation method, one that makes her talent grow stronger and stronger. She has already surpassed all common logic!"

"What!?" Many martial artists looked at each other in fear. 83% wasn't her limit?

Then what degree would she reach?

As for a cultivation method that constantly increased one's talent, they had never heard of that before.

"This kind of cultivation method exists?"

"I've only heard rumors about it. Moreover, this blue-clothed woman's cultivation is far too confusing. Some people say she is an early Empyrean and some people say she is an ordinary World King; it's as if her cultivation is always changing. But, one point is for certain is that whether she is an Empyrean or World King, she can easily pinch us to death without any effort at all. Although we are standing here with her, the truth is that we are on completely different levels. In her eyes, we are nothing more than ants!"

The martial artist who spoke deeply sighed. Everyone here was a proud child of the heavens. In their own large sects and families, they were heroic figures that stood at the peak of their generation. But here, they were actually considered to be no more than ants. No matter what, this left them feeling uncomfortable.

However, they had to acknowledge the truth. This spiritas woman stood on par with Soul Emperor Divine Void, with no inferiority or superiority between them. And, Soul Emperor Divine Void was a True Divinity supreme elder. As for the rest of them, they already considered it the highest honor to have an Empyrean

praise them a few times. The disparity between them could be imagined!

As all of this talk fell into Lin Ming's ears, he lost himself in thought for a moment. He had some faint ideas about this spiritas woman.

In the past, when he first entered the Asura Road, he had heard Soulwhite mention that in the last 100 million years, there had been two people who had obtained an 80% completion rate and above – the Good Fortune Saint Son and a mysterious spiritas woman.

Lin Ming thought that the Good Fortune Saint Son and the mysterious spiritas woman were the greatest geniuses of their race's youths.

But now, it seemed that he had misunderstood everything. This mysterious spiritas woman was not some junior, but a high level figure of the soul race!

Chapter 1678 – The Gate of Laws Opens

“The spiritas’ Soul Empress... if she comes from the 33 Heavens then she would definitely know about the war between the saints and the spiritas...”

Lin Ming was worried about the war between the saints and the spiritas in the 33 Heavens; this was an event greatly interlinked with humanity’s great calamity.

The enemy of an enemy is a friend. From this perspective, the spiritas had no conflicts of interest with humanity.

It was only that the spiritas of the 33 Heavens were far too mysterious. It seemed that because there was still a completely intact space barrier between the Divine Realm and the universes of the spiritas, Lin Ming’s knowledge of them was limited.

As all these thoughts flashed through Lin Ming’s mind, at this time, a supple voice sounded out. “Sir Lin, it’s been a while since we’ve seen each other...”

This was a familiar voice. Lin Ming turned, startled, and saw that just a few hundred feet away, there was a woman wearing a slim and tight-fitting dress.

This woman was calm and composed and her figure was curvy beyond belief. She had an extremely elegant style, and when combined with her dress, she seemed like a classical beauty.

This woman was Suyu!

Her current style was completely different from how it was 20 years ago.

At that time, Suyu had exuded sexual appeal. Every heave of her milky white breasts within her plunging necklines made her seem like some sort of intoxicating succubus that had arrived in the mortal plane.

But the current Suyu wore a simple light layer of practical clothing. She seemed elegant and fresh, just like the young daughter of a noble family.

Xiao Moxian's jaw dropped; it was like she hadn't recognized Suyu at all.

"Little sister Xian'er, you remain beautiful as always." Suyu smiled. For a time, the air seemed to brighten and fill with a rose haze.

"Big sister Suyu is also as beautiful as I remember." Xiao Moxian sweetly said, her little canines flashing. After their last parting, she and Suyu had inexplicably improved their relationship. Now that Xiao Moxian saw Suyu today, she couldn't help but feel a sincere liking towards this woman.

Such a noble and dignified young woman would be appreciated by any man or woman that saw them.

"It's been a while since we've seen each other. I didn't think we would meet in the final trial..." Lin Ming didn't know what he felt as he saw this current Suyu. He gestured towards Mo Brightmoon and the others, saying, "Miss Suyu, these are my companions. We are participating in the final trial together..."

As Lin Ming introduced his team, just as he was about to say something, the entire Gate of Laws began to emit a blinding light!

Everyone was shocked and they all turned towards it. The unimaginably large Gate of Laws began to rumble open and even the earth shivered as it did so. A horrifying aura poured out over everyone like an unending waterfall.

Everyone that faced the Gate of Laws felt an enormous pressure. This was a triple aspect pressure, one that simultaneously pressed down on their soul, body, and inner world. Even if these people were all chosen prides of heaven, they still found it hard to withstand!

Rumble rumble rumble!

Like a million thunderclaps sounding off at once, the two giant doors that blocked off the skies began to slowly pull open!

The Gate of Laws was opening!

The moment that the Gate of Laws began to open, an ancient and vigorous atmosphere that contained the power of the Great Dao surged outwards. All of the martial artists outside were soaked in the power of the Great Dao. For a time, everyone was shocked. It was like they were enlightened, their mind and soul filled with infinite inspirations!

Even Soul Empress Sheng Mei who had already been baptized by this aura of the Great Dao felt inspirations rise in her mind, as if she were about to perceive more of the Laws.

“No wonder it’s called the Gate of Laws.”

Lin Ming was stunned upon feeling this aura. This sort of feeling was similar to a human martial artist that was crossing their Ninefall, the moment that the Law fragments would descend from the heavens and mark the martial artist’s flesh and bones with the Laws.

However, the Heavenly Dao contained within the Gate of Laws was far too profound. Moreover, in such a short period of time, the martial artists weren’t able to perceive too much; they hadn’t even been able to perceive a millionth of what washed over them.

Even Lin Ming was only able to verify the Asura Sutra within the aura of the Great Dao. Unfortunately, the aura of the Great Dao disappeared before he could make a breakthrough...

“What a pity...”

Lin Ming shook his head. It would be great if he could comprehend a bit more.

The other martial artists all opened their eyes. The things they

comprehended were naturally far inferior to what Lin Ming had comprehended. The Laws within the Gate of Laws contained all phenomena to exist in the heavens and earth. Not only was there the Asura Heavenly Dao but also the incomparably complex 33 Heavenly Dao Laws.

No matter what race one was from or what cultivation method they studied, everyone would receive some benefits from the aura of the Great Dao in front of the Gate of Laws.

At this time, the Gate of Laws had already opened. Everyone looked towards the Gate of Laws to see that within the gate was an endless starry sky. And high within this starry world were four space-time gates standing side by side.

These space-time gates all resembled a circular portal. Endless origin energy gathered around them, slowly spinning, make them seem like mysterious black holes.

There were tremendous differences amongst the four space-time gates. From left to right, the space-time gates became increasingly small. The leftmost gate was several hundred miles wide, resembling a star. It was dark gray. As for the rightmost gate, it was only 10 miles wide and a deep blood red in color. This swirling dark red portal made one feel fearful and apprehensive as an inexplicable dread rose within them.

“This gate...”

Lin Ming looked towards the smallest space-time gate. He vaguely sensed that the smaller a space-time gate was, the more terrifying the aura it emitted!

The martial artists peacefully stood in front of these four massive space-time gates. They were about to make a decision that would affect their future potential and even their entire lives!

“The smaller the space-time gate, the more difficult it is!”

Many people who understood the situation in the final trial said.

“Is it? No wonder the rightmost gate has such a terrifying aura exuding from it. It’s like there is some dreadful ancient God Beast hiding within it. Is this the heaven-step difficulty that the Divine Void Crown Prince and Bigflame were speaking of?”

Many people had heard the Divine Void Crown Prince and Bigflame heatedly exchanging words with each other just now. The Divine Void Crown Prince and Bigflame both didn’t dare to choose the heaven-step difficulty. This was something they wouldn’t dare to touch, and even the earth-step difficulty would be somewhat difficult for them.

“No...”

At this time, Bigflame spoke up. He shot a glance at Soul Empress Sheng Mei and began to slowly say, “The heaven-step difficulty is the second space-time gate from the right. The second from the left is the earth-step difficulty. As for the first one on the left, the largest space-time gate, that is the easiest mortal-step difficulty...”

Bigflame had acquired a tremendous amount of detailed information on the final trial. Before coming here, he had thoroughly researched these materials and knew as much as anyone else did about these four portals within the Gate of Laws.

“What, isn’t the heaven-step difficulty the hardest one? The rightmost blood red space-time gate...”

Many people were shocked as they heard this. Their eyes suddenly moved towards the space-time gate on the rightmost side, the one that was also the smallest. As everyone stared at this gate, they felt a sense of dread swell up within their bodies, as if their very souls would be sucked inside. It was hard to look towards this gate for an extended period of time.

“That space-time gate is the Asura difficulty...”

Bigflame shook his head. Although the heaven-step difficulty was hard, there had always been peerless existences since ancient times

who had dared to challenge it. For instance, if one wished to obtain a final 80% completion rate or above, they had to choose the heaven-step difficulty gate.

But the Asura difficulty was a true life-forbidden zone. In the Asura Road, anything that could be described with the word ‘Asura’ was incredibly horrifying!

“Asura difficulty...”

Many young elites gulped, their mouths drying up. They didn’t know just what to say.

Many people quietly looked over to Soul Empress Sheng Mei. They were all wondering – did Sheng Mei have the smallest chance of challenging the Asura difficulty?

“Don’t worry about others. The rest of you should quickly choose the difficulty you want and stand in front of the corresponding space-time gate. In a little bit, the space-time gate will send out a space vortex that will swallow you in. At that time, every person will enter their own independent trial. Whether or not you can pass will all depend on yourselves. Don’t expect anyone else to come to your aid!”

Bigflame stepped on the feet of a few junior-apprentice brothers who were lost in a daze. As he sternly spoke to them he glanced over at the Divine Void Crown Prince.

At this time, the Divine Void Crown Prince was already standing in front of the second space-time gate from the left – that was the earth-step difficulty.

Bigflame sneered and slowly waddled his way over.

A good number of people chose the earth-step difficulty gate along with the Divine Void Crown Prince and Bigflame.

Fanny Fafa slapped his hands together and said to Lin Ming, “Good brother Lin, I will go first. I feel that this earth-step difficulty is just around the level that I can handle. Would you join

me? Or perhaps...”

As Fanny Fafa spoke, he looked towards the heaven-step difficulty gate. There was not a single person standing in front of it. In Fanny Fafa’s opinion, Lin Ming’s talent was beyond compare. If he chose the heaven-step difficulty, although there might be some difficulties, it was a challenge he could more than handle.

It had to be known that one didn’t need to perfectly complete the trial of the Gate of Laws. As long as one could complete a portion of it, they could safely pass.

Fanny Fafa had selected the earth-step difficulty space-time gate and he wasn’t planning on perfectly completing it. He was well aware of his own talent and knew that he was a bit lacking when compared to the Divine Void Crown Prince and Bigflame.

Lin Ming only smiled, no responding.

Fanny Fafa recognized that Lin Ming hadn’t finished deciding which difficulty he wanted. He said, “Alright, then I shall go first.”

Fanny Fafa nodded at Lin Ming and then stood before the earth-step gate.

Mo Brightmoon and Thousand Slaughter glanced at each other. After speaking a few words with Lin Ming, they also joined Fanny Fafa.

They didn’t possess Fanny Fafa’s pure yin body and in terms of talent, they were slightly lower. But, the two of them weren’t willing to choose the lowest level mortal-step space-time gate.

“Sir Lin, the benefits will be greatest if you choose the difficulty that you can perfectly complete. Try not to push yourself too far.” Suya said to Lin Ming before she left.

The truth was that Suya had never seen Lin Ming fight, but, her intuition told her that Lin Ming was different from ordinary divine runic masters; he shouldn’t be weak.

“Mm, thank you...”

Lin Ming lightly smiled and watched as Suyu stepped before the earth-step gate.

Then, more and more martial artists began to make their choice. In terms of proportion of people who chose, the mortal-step gate accounted for around 60% and the earth-step gate accounted for 40%.

The front of the heaven-step gate was completely empty.

At this time, only a few people had yet to make their choice. This included Lin Ming and Xiao Moxian, as well as Soul Empress Sheng Mei.

Everyone's eyes turned to Soul Empress Sheng Mei. They were all waiting to see her choice.

Chapter 1679 – Lin Ming's Choice

Without a doubt, Sheng Mei was the most powerful person in this final trial. Everyone was curious as to what difficulty she would choose.

Sheng Mei's expression was indifferent. Her steps slowly moved forwards and her slim body fluttered like a blue flower petal in the wind.

The direction she chose was the second gate from the right, the heaven-step space-time gate!

"It's the heaven-step! Soul Empress Sheng Mei has chosen the heaven-step difficulty!" Many spirit martial artists exclaimed, startled.

"Hey! To the Soul Empress, just what is the heaven-step gate? The last time the Soul Empress was in the final trial she also chose the heaven-step difficulty. If the Soul Empress chooses the heaven-step difficulty then it's likely she can already perfectly complete it."

To perfectly complete the heaven-step difficulty. To those listening, this was already a legend!

And at this time, nearly everyone had made their choice. The only ones missing were Lin Ming and Xiao Moxian.

Lin Ming speechlessly rubbed his temples, a bit exasperated.

His original plan was to have everyone enter their space-time gates and then he would choose. Like this, it wouldn't arouse anyone's interest no matter what he chose.

But, the space-time gates just happened to activate all at once, sucking everyone in. If so, then Lin Ming had no other options but to make his choice under the eyes of everyone.

Lin Ming looked at Xiao Moxian. Xiao Moxian said, "Big Brother

Lin, I've chosen."

"Mm..."

Lin Ming nodded. The truth was that at this time, not many people were paying attention to Lin Ming; they were only looking at Soul Empress Sheng Mei, wanting to see what choice she would make. As for Lin Ming, not many people cared for him.

Of course, there were always at least some individuals keeping a sharp eye on Lin Ming. For instance, Duke Fullmoon.

Duke Fullmoon stood behind the Third Crown Prince, glaring at Lin Ming. With so many people here it was impossible for him to launch a sudden attack. He would have to wait until he reached the third level and then look for a chance to have some fun with Lin Ming.

However, Duke Fullmoon hadn't thought that even now, Lin Ming still wouldn't have made his choice. Instead, he stood before the four space-time gates, deep in thought.

He began to slowly understand the reason why Lin Ming still hadn't made his choice.

It must be because although Lin Ming had a high comprehensive combat efficiency, the reason for this was also because of his divine runic symbols. But in the Gate of Laws, these external objects were useless!

Thinking of this, Duke Fullmoon mockingly jeered.

"You little beast, are you scared? The Gate of Laws tests a martial artist's talent and external items cannot play any role! Don't think you can rely on your divine runic symbols; no matter how powerful they are they will still be nothing more than scraps of paper! I hope that you can emerge from the Gate of Laws alive, then I can personally kill you and take all of your treasures, hahaha!"

Duke Fullmoon recklessly laughed.

Lin Ming coldly looked at Duke Fullmoon, ignoring his provocation. However, Duke Fullmoon had managed to warn Lin Ming about something. That was that in the Gate of Laws, all external items were useless.

Thinking about it, this was also well within reason. If external items could be used then this wouldn't be a true test of a martial artist's talent.

Seeing the Gate of Laws slightly tremble, as if the space vortex was brewing, Lin Ming shook his head. "Forget it, it doesn't matter if others think I'm an idiot..."

Lin Ming already expected that his choice would cause the many people here to think he was nothing but a brain-dead lunatic. And in truth, this was an inevitable matter...

Xiao Moxian stepped out before Lin Ming. Her step was light and sprightly, like a beautiful butterfly floating forwards. Although her step didn't seem quick, she arrived in front of the space-time gate she chose in the blink of an eye.

Her choice was the heaven-step difficulty. She stood beside Soul Empress Sheng Mei.

For a time, even Sheng Mei looked at Xiao Moxian with surprise.

For such a young and delicate young girl to stand next to Sheng Mei, this sight was simply too dazzling.

The originally noisy crowd calmed down for some time. Everyone discovered that there was something strange about the atmosphere, and as they discovered the reason, they all looked towards Xiao Moxian.

As they looked at Xiao Moxian they were all dumbfounded. Everyone already had high expectations of the heaven-step difficulty; they looked at her with their eyes wide open.

Just what background did this young girl have that she would choose the heaven-step difficulty?

Suya also covered her mouth. For better or worse, she had known Xiao Moxian for a long time and now considered her similar to a little sister. Although she could feel that Xiao Moxian's talent wasn't ordinary, she hadn't thought that she would have the confidence and courage to choose the heaven-step difficulty!

And before everyone had time to respond, something even more ridiculous occurred!

They saw a black-clothed young man stroll past the heaven-step difficulty gate, towards the rightmost gate. That was the Asura difficulty space-time gate!

As for Duke Fullmoon, who had been watching Lin Ming from the start, his original mocking smile had completely frozen. He watched with utter disbelief as Lin Ming neared the Asura difficulty space-time gate, his mouth having dropped open, dumbfounded.

"What... what is he doing?" Duke Fullmoon muttered to himself, his eyes wide open. This couldn't even be called crazy!

Could it be that Lin Ming recognized he couldn't pass so he had sunken into despair and completely thrown everything to the wind?

No... even though Duke Fullmoon mocked Lin Ming, he also knew that Lin Ming's cultivation speed was quite quick. Even if Lin Ming's true combat strength was garbage, passing the lowest level mortal-step difficulty shouldn't be a problem.

Moreover, passing and perfectly completing were two entirely different concepts. If one wished to enter the third level, that wouldn't be difficult at all.

As Duke Fullmoon was lost in thought, Lin Ming had already stood in front of the Asura difficulty gate.

In front of that giant space-time gate, there was only Lin Ming standing there. It was simply far too eye-catching a sight.

All the martial artists watching felt their jaws drop as they looked at Lin Ming. In their eyes, Lin Ming had gone mad!

“Lin Ming... he...”

Even Suyu, who held Lin Ming in high esteem, was shocked by this. As for Mo Brightmoon who had accompanied Lin Ming here, she also didn't expect him to make such an exaggerated choice.

As for the others, they all looked at Lin Ming like he was particularly 'special'. Did this person have some sort of mental issue? Where had this fool come from?

“He is probably... the Divine Runic Masters Guild's Lin Ming...”

Out of the many young elites present, some of them had attended the Divine Rune City Auction that Lin Ming had participated in, thus they recognized him.

Within the inner Asura Road, Lin Ming could just barely pass as a well-known figure.

As soon as Lin Ming and the 'Lin' logo was mentioned, many people realized who he was. There were some people here who just happened to be using those 'Lin' logo divine runic symbols.

“Lin Ming, the creator of the 'Lin' logo? Isn't he a divine runic master? Then why would he...”

No one could figure out what was happening.

A divine runic master attending the final trial wasn't anything too strange. But, the key point here was that in the final trial, this Lin Ming had decided to choose the Asura difficulty that no one had chosen in hundreds of millions or even billions of years. This left everyone wracking their minds for just what was going on.

It had to be known that in the Gate of Laws, there was the persistent danger of death!

As everyone was speaking, Soul Empress Sheng Mei only quietly looked at Lin Ming. The discussions of these martial artists were

also heard by Sheng Mei. From what she knew, this Lin Ming wasn't an ordinary person.

However, even she couldn't complete the Asura level difficulty. She simply didn't believe that there was a junior who surpassed her in talent.

“Are you sure you know what concept the Asura level difficulty is?”

Sheng Mei parted her cherry red lips and asked Lin Ming. These could be called words of comfort. According to common logic, an unimportant figure like Lin Ming could make any choice he wanted to and Sheng Mei wouldn't bat an eyelash. However, she felt that there was something special about Lin Ming, thus she made an exception to ask him. Of course, she was only asking him this once. If Lin Ming didn't want to listen to her then she wouldn't say anything else.

Facing the eyes of so many people as well as Soul Empress Sheng Mei's question, Lin Ming was left speechless. He only wanted to complete the trial in a very low profile manner that didn't draw any attention.

He replied, “I thank Soul Empress for the concern, but if no one has chosen the Asura difficulty in so many hundreds of millions of years, who is to say what the difficulty will be like? Moreover... no matter which gate it is, it seems that there are many degrees of completion... I don't need to perfectly complete it, just barely passing it will be fine for me...”

In all fairness, Lin Ming couldn't guarantee what results he would have once he entered the Asura difficulty gate.

He had two advantages he could rely on. The first was his combat strength that far surpassed others of his step, and the second was his understandings of the Asura Heavenly Dao.

In the past, the Good Fortune Saint Son had chosen the heaven-

step difficulty and obtained a final completion rate of 81%.

Lin Ming believed that if he went up another level of difficulty, he should have some chance of completing it!

Taking a step backwards, even if the Asura difficulty was far too abnormally difficult, then he could definitely give up all thoughts of rewards and simply work to maintain his life.

With all of these factors combined, Lin Ming had thus chosen the Asura difficulty.

However, as Lin Ming's words fell upon Sheng Mei's ears, they sounded like the words of a proud and high-spirited youth. She simply shook her head, not trying to advise him anymore.

As for everyone else, their eyes on Lin Ming were as if they were looking at a fool.

Those that were able to participate in the final trial were all outstanding elites of their generation. However, an idiot had appeared out of nowhere. Since it wasn't their job to manage him, they might as well join in on the fun.

"You would rather die in the Gate of Laws?" Duke Fullmoon coldly sneered as he looked at Lin Ming and spoke in a mocking tone.

Lin Ming didn't bother with Duke Fullmoon. He simply sat cross-legged in the air and shut his eyes in meditation. At this time, Mo Brightmoon and Suyu's worried sound transmissions echoed in his ears. Really, Lin Ming's choice had caused many people to worry about him.

Lin Ming felt a headache creeping up. Just as he was about to explain his choice, a loud rumbling came from the incomparably massive Gate of Laws.

As the Gate of Laws trembled, four space-time channels began to wildly form and revolve!

The energies that permeated the second floor and the aura of the Laws began to swirl together, sweeping up into a giant origin energy vortex!

In the vortex, everyone could feel a horrifying suction strength pull upon their bodies. In this vortex, even a World King powerhouse was nothing but a leaf in a storm, completely unable to control their body.

Everyone cried out in alarm. But in the next instant, they were all sucked into the space-time channels where they vanished from sight.

“What a terrifying strength. It’s like the momentum of the world, a force that cannot be disobeyed...”

As Lin Ming was swept up in the brutal energy vortex, he guarded his inner world and kept his mind pure and bright. He watched as the blood red space-time channel came increasingly close. Then, like a pebble in the sea, he submerged into the channel without raising a single ripple...

Chapter 1680 – Asura Difficulty

After having experienced an intense feeling of spatial warping, Lin Ming felt his body shake. After that, the deep blood red color that flooded his eyes disappeared, leaving him in a deep and quiet ancient land.

The place where Lin Ming stood was atop a timeworn cliff, with walls that stretched down to infinity. In front of Lin Ming was a narrow aerial bridge.

This aerial bridge was only 10 foot wide. Beneath the bridge was an impossibly distant valley that he couldn't see the bottom of. Looking down, one could sense the atmosphere of timeless years exuding from the valley, as if falling in there would be the same as falling into the eternal past.

Moreover, in front of Lin Ming, there were also hundreds of floating weapons.

There was a sword, spear, saber, dagger, hammer, chain, whip, shield, ruler, and so forth. There could be said to be every type of possible weapon available to him!

There were even different weapons of the same category. For instance, within spears there were also hard spears, flexible spears, lances, short spears, overlord spears, and so forth. Any weapon that could be thought of could be chosen.

Seeing these weapons, Lin Ming had a faint guess of what was happening. His mind touched upon his spatial ring and as he tried to search it he discovered that it was indeed blocked.

No external items could be used here.

One could only choose a weapon available within this trial and rush through the Gate of Laws depending on their own ability!

Lin Ming's eyes swept out and he chose a plain nine foot long spear from the weapons. As he shook it, a horrifying shaking force

slammed up his arm, vibrating the air.

It was unknown what material this spear was made from, but the quality was wonderful to the point of leaving one flabbergasted. Lin Ming didn't doubt that the materials used in this spear were more than enough to craft an Empyrean spirit treasure.

But, this spear in Lin Ming's hand wasn't an Empyrean spirit treasure. In fact, it wasn't even a spirit artifact. This was only a simple and ordinary spear. No matter how perfectly flexible it was or how impeccably sharp it was, there was no array formation carved into the spear shaft. Thus, this spear wasn't able to increase a martial artist's strength; it was a mere weapon.

This was simply a waste of heaven's treasures.

But when Lin Ming took this spear in hand, he felt his fighting spirit be ignited by it. Before he entered the final trial, he had heard that what this final trial tested was a martial artist's comprehensive talent and not their absolute strength.

However, from the past until now, everything Lin Ming had encountered were indiscriminate dangers. For instance, those traps and monsters he encountered could be easily overcome by someone strong. Those weak would have already perished without even their bones left.

Now, in the Gate of Laws, this trial was undoubtedly a test of one's talent. From this point on, the disparity between the various trial challengers would be pulled open.

As Lin Ming stepped on the aerial bridge, he immediately felt a dreadful pressure crushing down on him.

This pressure was like there was a God Beast not too far away from Lin Ming, greedily eyeing him!

For those that were too weak, just this pressure would have made their minds shake and unable to display even 50% of their true strength. Like this, they would have already lost from the start.

Lin Ming took one step forwards at a time. No enemies appeared. Rather, the pressure on him became increasingly heavy.

Lin Ming continually adjusted his breath, keeping his mindset in a state of calm.

Walking by himself, above this unfathomably deep abyss, the horrifying aura from the abyss rolled up into the skies, causing Lin Ming's clothes to flap in the wind. After some time, Lin Ming turned around to see that he had actually walked a considerable distance away from where he began.

Looking at the distant scenery behind him, Lin Ming was stunned. It turned out that he hadn't been standing on a cliff. Rather, he had been standing on a sculpture that was unimaginably large!

This sculpture was that of a giant war god. From where Lin Ming was standing, he could only make out the mountain-like head of the sculpture. The rest of it was wrapped in dense fog, making it impossible to clearly see.

“Asura...”

Inexplicably, this word popped into Lin Ming's mind. Without knowing why, he felt that this sculpture was an Asura...

Every edge and turn of this incomparably massive statue represented the infinite true meaning and intense will of the Asura Road Master. There were countless mysteries contained within it.

The Great Dao was like a vast moat; only the brave would find victory!

Lin Ming's mind surged with lofty thoughts and heroic ambitions. In the past, the Asura Road Master had relied on his strength to create a great world that stood beside the 33 Heavens.

This sort of courage and daring even infected Lin Ming. He wanted to be the same as the Asura Road Master, creating his own world, establishing his own Laws, and paving his own road of

martial arts.

One step at a time, Lin Ming firmly and decisively moved forwards.

Suddenly, the void in front of him began to shake like a rippling lake surface.

Hu - !

A fierce roar seemed to arrive from the endless flow of time, bringing with it an endless killing intent, raging and wild.

A massive snow-white God Beast phantom appeared in front of Lin Ming. Its two pupils contained an endless killing intent. This was a White Tiger God Beast!

Soon after, the heavens and earth moved again. Space was torn apart and an Azure Dragon flew forth, its body as long and winding as a mountain range as it clawed at the skies. Its entire body was covered with a vibrant blue spiritual strength that exuded life force.

Following that, a Vermillion Bird God Beast appeared, one that blocked out the skies. Deep beneath the ground, a mysterious creature began to move. This was a Black Turtle God Beast!

God Beast Grand Array!

No wonder there was such a tremendous pressure here. This strange land was suppressed in all directions by a God Beast Grand Array.

Ancient God Beasts originally evolved from the Laws of the heavens and earth. Each type of God Beast represented the purest manifestation of the Great Dao and each one grasped the strongest source strength of their attribute.

Now that the God Beast Grand Array appeared, Lin Ming felt like a heavy mountain was pressing down on his heart. Goosebumps rose all over his body.

If he wanted to walk to the end of this bridge, he naturally needed to pass this God Beast Grand Array that suppressed this land.

Lin Ming's blood began to boil as he thought of this. All of the fighting strength in his body was stimulated, becoming increasingly wild.

He stepped forwards, one step at a time. The terrifying pressure fell onto him like a waterfall, pressing down so hard that it made his bones emit loud explosive sounds and caused his entire body to shake!

This was a horrifying array formation. Lin Ming estimated that the strength of this array formation was set by the skeletal age of a trial challenger. Only then would it be accurate in testing a person's talent.

Lin Ming thought that his own talent was already near the peak of all races in the 33 Heavens. Even so, facing this God Beast Grand Array, Lin Ming was hard-pressed to continue.

From this alone it could be seen how arduous the Asura level difficulty was!

Heretical God Force!

Lin Ming's thoughts focused and the phantom of the Heretical God Tree appeared behind him. Above the crown of the Heretical God Tree, the power of thunder and fire wildly crackled and blazed!

With the support of the Heretical God Force, Lin Ming continued forwards. But, the pressure still became increasingly horrifying.

Even though he opened the Heretical God Force, Lin Ming was finding it hard to withstand this suppressive force.

Purple Temple Dao Palace!

Lin Ming's entire body crackled. His flesh and bones released

deafening explosive sounds as starlight from the nine heavens appeared out of nowhere. This starlight fell onto Lin Ming's body like a river of stars, soaking him in power, causing his strength to rapidly rise!

Underneath the support of this titanic strength, Lin Ming took step after step into the God Beast Grand Array.

His body emitted explosive sounds again and again. His clothes disintegrated and his blood vessels popped up on his skin!

Then, with a roar that shook the heavens and cracked the earth, the White Tiger came hurtling towards Lin Ming.

This phantom carried with it a roiling blood-slaughtering intent as it hurtled towards Lin Ming.

On the aerial bridge, Lin Ming was shocked. He quickly retreated, but as he was doing so he was bombarded by waves of terrifying energy. In that moment, monstrous waves tumbled in Lin Ming's mind. He watched as his surroundings disappeared and he suddenly reappeared in a primal execution ground.

Giant demon carcasses dotted this black and blighted land.

This air was filled with the scent of death and decay.

The massive White Tiger God Beast stood between the heavens and earth, its blood red pupils fixed on Lin Ming.

Its killing intent substantialized, so thick and sharp it cut through air.

....Kill...Kill...KILL...!

A powerful killing intent lingered in the air, screaming out at the mind.

Even Lin Ming was infected by this killing intent.

“Kill! Kill! Kill your way to your bloody road, kill your way to your eternal Great Dao!” At this time, the strong killing intent surged into Lin Ming's heart, immersing his entire body in the will

to kill...

For a time, Lin Ming slowly lost control of his body. He gradually moved towards the side of the aerial bridge, about to step off it.

But just as he was about to step off into the endless abyss, faintly, endless starlight began to flow out from within Lin Ming's bones, filling him with life vitality, infinitely varied and subtle.

From within this inexhaustible life force, all sorts of strange mysterious runes began to float up.

These runes were the fragments of the heavenly retribution dao diagram that Lin Ming had shattered when he broke into the Heavenly Retribution Dao Palace. This starlight was filled with life and the Great Dao, and had fused into his muscles and bones.

In this crucial moment, these runes had responded.

Some runes flashed like wisps of lightning. They slashed out, slamming into Lin Ming's mind.

Lin Ming felt his mind shake. Suddenly, he was panic-stricken as he realized he was being surrounded by an endless killing intent.

This White Tiger God Beast's attack was not just physical but also misled the divine soul. A White Tiger was the essence of Buddha-slaughtering killing intent. If someone were to be fully infected by this Buddha-slaughtering killing intent, then they would lose their will and become nothing but a mindless slaughter puppet...

Lin Ming woke up. This chaotic flow of energy was the White Tiger God Beast's Buddha-slaughtering road. If it weren't for the Heavenly Retribution Dao Palace within his body striking out with lightning and awakening him from his stupor, he would have been in a dangerous situation.

"This place is indeed a land filled with cunning dangers!"

Lin Ming focused his mind. He could faintly feel that after stepping into the Gate of Laws, battles would not just be slaughter

battles fought with true essence. Moreover, this would be a battle of wills and Laws and many other aspects. Here, one could obtain great harvests, but at the same time, the dangers were equally risky.

With a thought, he shook the long spear in his hand.

“Celestial Tyrant Manual – Hundred Layered Waves!”

Each strike of the long spear tore through the void, carrying with it brutal strength of 10 billion jins. Even a planet would be crushed by this attack.

This massive strength rushed out like waves, layering upon each other and rapidly growing.

Finally, this boundless force combined into a single point, condensing within this mysterious long spear.

As this spear thrust out one final time, it was with a force similar to a supernova, blinding to the eyes.

Rumble! Rumble!

Lin Ming’s spear stabbed towards the giant White Tiger that lay across the dark lands.

This White Tiger phantom was in no way a true God Beast; it was only a wisp of aura from the God Beast Grand Array.

Ka –

In that moment, with the sound of crashing thunder, a massive wound was blown into the White Tiger. The shattered pieces of the White Tiger blew out; these were runes of the Great Dao marked with the power of ‘killing intent’.

Within the formidable White Tiger God Beast phantom, a flaw had appeared!

Chapter 1681 – The Narrow Road

After Lin Ming severely wounded the White Tiger phantom, a wisp of blood red aura from the Great Dao appeared in Lin Ming's sea of consciousness.

This aura slowly fused together with his flesh and blood, merging with his awareness.

“This is...” Lin Ming was startled. When he damaged the White Tiger phantom just now, a bit of the power and Laws contained within it had converged into Lin Ming's body, allowing him to become aware of many more things.

It seemed that even though this Gate of Laws was filled with death and slaughter, it also represented a lucky chance.

“In this place I might be able to temper my understandings of the Heavenly Dao Laws... the source strength of a God Beast's Heavenly Dao, that is a rare chance...”

Lin Ming thought to himself, his mind calming down. On the thin aerial bridge, the strong heavenly winds rocked against him, but his heart remained as steady as a mountain. Then, at this time, the giant Azure Dragon in front of Lin Ming roared towards him, its deep blue Azure Dragon aura hurtling into Lin Ming.

The moment that the Asura Dragon attacked, the surrounding scene turned into that of an endless sea. The Azure Dragon raged above it, all-powerful, an existence swollen with arrogance.

The more Lin Ming fought, the more his blood boiled over. He opened the two Dao Palaces within his body and wildly revolved the Heretical God Force. Underneath the support of his brutal strength, Lin Ming was like an ancient vicious beast as he crashed onto the back of the Azure Dragon!

Billions of jins of dreadful strength came pounding down. The Azure Dragon howled out in pain and misery as it was sent flying

away. Lin Ming stepped forwards, chasing after it!

For the current Lin Ming, because he had opened two Dao Palaces, his body transformation technique had become his strongest attack method. On the other hand, his essence gathering system lagged behind.

Strike after strike, Lin Ming's spear potential was endless and majestic. It came crashing down like mountains, unstoppable.

Lin Ming rode upon the Azure Dragon, violently struggling with it in a wild barrage of attacks. However, it was only a God Beast phantom and was unable to withstand Lin Ming's onslaught.

For a time, blue scales shattered as blood rained down over the earth!

Lin Ming had slaughtered the Azure Dragon in a life or death struggle!

Thus, of the four God Beast phantoms, two had disappeared. The remaining shattered grand array was far less threatening to Lin Ming. Lin Ming became fiercer the more he fought, soon killing all of the God Beast phantoms!

After massacring all of the God Beasts, Lin Ming's entire body was bathed in blood. His arms and his body shivered. This was the side-effect of overdrawing his strength in physical combat, but also because of the bubbling excitement from the battle!

With a deep breath, Lin Ming slowly calmed down his heated blood and thoughts. At this time, on the aerial bridge the terrifying pressure was still as dreadful as before, without the slightest hint of diminishing. Rather, after Lin Ming broke through the God Beast Grand Array, this pressure became far more powerful!

Underneath this terrifying pressure, an ordinary martial artist would find it difficult to breathe, much less continue fighting.

"This pressure hasn't decreased... it seems I have to adapt to the pressure in the Gate of Laws, it might follow me throughout this

entire trial. If I cannot adapt to it then sooner or later I won't be able to withstand it anymore and I'll be defeated from this alone."

As Lin Ming was thinking this, he sat down in meditation.

Just now, Lin Ming had torn apart the Four God Beast Grand Array, and the four God Beast phantoms had been overflowing with the aura of Laws. This was marvelously similar to the God Beast Array in Tragic Death Valley, even though the methods were different.

After breaking apart the array formation, the source Heavenly Dao Laws of these God Beasts had scattered into the air. This was the perfect time to meditate and perceive these God Beast Laws.

God Beasts were the favored children of the heavens. Runes of the Great Dao were inscribed into their flesh and bones, an incomparably mysterious miracle of nature.

Lin Ming began to adapt to the terrifying pressure on this aerial bridge even as he absorbed the power of the God Beast Laws!

Since the Gate of Laws had the word 'Laws' in its name, Lin Ming guessed that the 'Laws' themselves were part of the rewards from this trial!

When ordinary people entered the Gate of Laws, who wouldn't do everything in their ability to pass it as quickly as possible while obtaining a perfect completion? There wasn't anyone as insane as Lin Ming who would think of training atop this thin aerial bridge underneath the pall of such a terrifying pressure.

Of course, the reason Lin Ming dared to do this was because of his formidable strength as well as his comprehensions of the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws.

This was also the origin of his confidence.

Lin Ming was a quiet old tree, motionlessly sitting on the aerial bridge. Strong heavenly winds blew around him, causing the bridge to gently tremble. Like this, he meditated for three days and

three nights.

From start to end, the pressure on the aerial bridge hadn't faded even the tiniest bit. But, Lin Ming adapted more and more to it. Beneath this pressure, Lin Ming's muscles and bloodline were tempered, his entire body undergoing subtle and minute changes.

Where there was pressure, there would naturally be resistance. In these three days, all of Lin Ming's cells swallowed energy to resist this heavy pressure. As every single cell within Lin Ming's body was being tempered, he adapted more and more to the terrifying pressure in the Gate of Laws! Lin Ming's essence, energy, and divine, all expanded.

Gradually, Lin Ming was shrouded in a fog of substantialized spiritual power.

Finally, his eyes flashed open, his pupils shining with purple lightning. His aura was like a sword that shot into the skies.

With a leap upwards, the world momentum that flooded the aerial bridge, covering this entire land in billowing waves of pressure, was broken through by Lin Ming like a fish swimming against a river. Lin Ming's feet landed solidly on the aerial bridge as he hurtled forwards at a breakneck pace!

To run forwards under this terrifying pressure, the pressure that Lin Ming had to withstand could be imagined.

However, after opening two Dao Palaces Lin Ming had a body that could withstand all of this. Soon, the boundless aerial bridge beneath his feet disappeared and Lin Ming entered a new and strange world.

In front of him was a vast white light.

High in the skies, he could make out an impossibly large continent floating in space, one that exuded a primeval and vibrant aura.

Rumbling winds crashed about like peals of thunder, echoing out

from all directions.

A boundless aura constantly poured down from this ancient floating continent.

Lin Ming was well aware that the world of the final trial was the carefully created masterpiece of the Asura Road Master. Every single inch of this world contained endless profound meanings.

Thinking of this, Lin Ming jumped straight into the skies like a rising meteor, pouncing onto the ancient continent.

Peng!

After he landed on the ancient continent that floated 100,000 feet in the air, Lin Ming looked around.

This place was not what he imagined. Atop this ancient continent, there were actually endless numbers of golden gates.

These golden gates were as large as mountains; it was difficult to see their edges. He could only sense an incomparably vigorous atmosphere exuding from them, like the titanic pressure of a spiritual god.

The aura from every golden gate was like a torrential tide, crashing into Lin Ming's heart and mind. This caused every nerve in his body to be alert for danger, his entire body shaking.

“Just what is in them?”

Lin Ming had trained in martial arts for many years and his heart and will were as solid as a rock. But in front of these giant gates, even he was panic-stricken. In ordinary times, only the aura emitted from an Empyrean level powerhouse would create such a pressure on him.

At this time, every golden gate emitted a brilliant golden light that covered Lin Ming.

Like being caught by countless hands, Lin Ming felt every wisp of golden light searching his entire body.

He was like a helpless little baby, completely exposed beneath this endless golden light.

Immediately, the light coming from the golden gates dimmed down, suddenly turning silver.

At the same time, there were also changes in the vividly dangerous auras exuding from the golden gates. The auras became much stranger, far more ghostly. Then, one of the golden gates opened and an icy cold aura filled the air.

Lin Ming knew that perhaps this gate was the entrance to the second part of this trial. As he remained vigilant of everything around him, he carefully stepped inside.

Hu - !

Snow and ice filled the world, sweeping in from all directions, carrying with it an icy coldness that seeped into the bones.

The skies were cloudy and gray, piling up in the heavens, seeming as if they were made from ashes.

Trees, rivers, and even the endless mountain ranges around him were covered in sheets of frozen snow and ice.

After Lin Ming broke into the second Dao Palace of the Nine Stars of the Dao Palace – the Heavenly Retribution Dao Palace, his mortal body had reached unprecedented levels of intensity. There were few humans in the last billion years that possessed bodies comparable to his own.

By raising his hand, he could shatter a moon.

And yet, even with such a powerful mortal body, he could feel an icy chill needling into his flesh, piercing into his blood vessels and bones, and seeping into his organs.

Suddenly, an ice mountain a mile away began to crack and collapse. An even more dreadful cold atmosphere gushed out from that shattering ice mountain.

An icy cold aura rushed towards Lin Ming, like an incoming ice-white tsunami on a frozen sea...

But Lin Ming didn't sense this.

At this time, there had already been some people who had passed the Gate of Laws.

Those who passed through the Gate of Laws first were the trial challengers who had chosen the easiest difficulty.

Amongst them, many only used a little more than three days to walk to the end of the Gate of Laws and smoothly reach the third level...

Chapter 1682 – Reward

“We passed! We’ve made it to the third level!”

The first batch of trial challengers had successfully passed the Gate of Laws and had reached the third level. They were immediately overjoyed.

“It’s not hard at all!”

“Haha, if I knew this earlier I would have chosen the earth-step difficulty, I estimate that I could have passed that one too!”

A young elite arrogantly proclaimed. The trial challengers that selected the easiest difficulty had mostly perfectly completed their trial. Before, because they had taken too many factors into consideration, they hadn’t dared to choose the harder difficulty. But now, because they had perfectly passed their trial they couldn’t help but develop ideas that they could have chosen a higher difficulty.

As they were all excitedly discussing, they also looked at the scenery of the third level. As they saw their surroundings, they looked at each other in confusion.

The final trial’s third floor was simply a vast white earth, seeming to stretch to infinity and beyond. It didn’t seem like there was anything special here nor were there any dangers.

But, floating in the skies above this white earth were innumerable immortal palaces!

These immortal palaces came in different sizes The smallest were the size of a mortal house, the medium ones were around the size of a royal palace, the larger ones were around the size of large mountains, and the biggest one was even the size of a small planet!

Moreover, the larger an immortal palace was, the more horrifying the aura it exuded. In particular, the immortal palace that was as large as a planet was engraved with countless runes of

the Great Dao. Between these endless runes were also reliefs of God Beasts. There were winding Azure Dragons, Phoenixes in nirvana, Kirins running; their numbers and variety were endless.

These reliefs were also covered with runes, all of them giving off an incredibly shocking feeling. It was like there was some spiritual god living within this immortal palace!

From looks alone, one could guess that the largest immortal palace must have some great mystery within it!

“What place is this? Are these immortal palaces the test...?”

Many young elites asked in a daze as they saw the immortal palaces above them. They had an urge to fly up and investigate these immortal palaces.

“This isn’t a test, but the reward! Within every immortal palace is a lucky chance. In the third level of the final trial, there is no danger, only rewards!”

Someone amongst the young elites said. He had a detailed understanding of what generally occurred in the final trial.

The final trial didn’t have dangers on every level. Some levels were designated as reward zones and also to allow trial challengers a place to rest. The third level was such an example.

“Rewards!?”

Hearing this word, the eyes of many heroic young elites began to shine!

Rewards of the final trial, this was no trifling matter!

“Haha, we are the first group of people to pass the Gate of Laws. First come, first serve!”

“Haha, our gains are too great!”

These young elites glanced at each other and then flew upwards like a swarm of locusts. Their speed was quick as they flew towards the largest planet-sized immortal palace in the air.

Even an idiot would understand that the largest immortal palace with the most terrifying aura would also possess the best lucky chances!

Thinking of the legends of many lucky chances related to the final trial, all of their eyes turned red with greed. They rushed up as fast as they could, even ready to slaughter each other to get to their destination.

The martial artists in the front of the pack didn't hesitate to use secret techniques to hasten their flight. As they saw the great and mysterious immortal palace became closer and closer, they nearly drooled!

However, just as they were about to rush into the immortal palace, all of them cried out in pain and misery. Their bodies had been severely wounded!

They had all crashed into a wall they couldn't see!

“Ahhhhh!”

A pitiful scream echoed out in the air. The trial challengers had long gone crazy with greed and had displayed the limits of their speed. Now, before they had time to respond, they all smashed into this invisible barrier!

“Fuck! What happened!?”

Everyone either rubbed their heads or hugged their chests, their breaths ragged.

This immortal palace had been sealed away by an enchantment!

Some martial artists attacked the enchantment. Although they knew they couldn't break it, they still wanted to give vent to their rage.

However, they didn't expect that all their attacks would strike the enchantment and then bounce back, slamming into them instead. They all wailed as they were struck, vomiting out blood as

they fell down from the skies, nearly killed by their own actions.

“Requirement to enter the immortal palace – 50%!”

In that moment, this thought swiftly passed into the minds of many people.

They were all stunned. What? There was a completion percentage requirement?

They also remembered that after they passed through the Gate of Laws, their completion percent had only been a bit more than 30%. But, this immortal palace required 50%!

They were a little less than half off!

The crowd of trial challengers glanced at each other in blank dismay. They immediately understood that they had no fate with the largest immortal palace.

Although they were depressed, they still rallied their hearts and continued to the next, slightly smaller immortal palace. They had already been taught a good lesson by that mountain-sized immortal palace. This time, they all flew outside the next smaller one and carefully studied the barrier.

After a brief investigation, they discovered that there was a completion requirement of 45%!

All of them were scared silly. They thought that the lucky chances of the third level were first come first serve, but now they discovered that there wasn't a free meal in this world.

In helpless desperation, they lowered their requests and went to an even smaller immortal palace, one of the ones the size of a mortal's royal palace. Although they already had a foreboding premonition in their heart, the result still left them feeling pained. The requirements for these palaces were still around 40%! They still couldn't enter!

All that was left over were the immortal palaces the size of little

houses.

These smallest immortal palaces appeared like little thatched huts. Looking at them, one could feel an incomparably thin aura of Laws. Although they were clearly the worst immortal palaces available, they could only choose these.

After a brief investigation, the completion requirements for these small palaces were around 30%. Depending on the strength of their auras, the completion percentage required differed by 3-5%. For these people that had just passed through the Gate of Laws, it was just right.

After discovering this frustrating and despair-inducing reality, many people had faces like a frozen eggplant. All of their previously lofty ambitions and thoughts had wilted away to nothing.

They originally thought they had perfectly passed the Gate of Laws and thus were in good moods. But after arriving on the third level and choosing a reward, they realized they were nothing but garbage in the eyes of the Asura Road Master.

The 'immortal palaces' that looked like little thatched huts – could there be anything worse?

In terms of number alone, there were as many of these little tiny immortal palaces as there were grains of sand in a desert. It was without doubt that there would be nothing of high value found within these tiny immortal palaces. Compared to the largest immortal palace that was the size of a small planet, as well as being the only one there was, the disparity was far too great!

However, it was likely that no one would be able to enter the largest immortal palace. As for the slightly worse immortal palace that was the size of a mountain, maybe only an extraordinary genius like Soul Empress Sheng Mei would have the ability to enter...

Thinking of this, everyone felt just a little bit better.

Everyone began to choose immortal palaces that were within their reach and flew in. No matter who it was, after entering the third level, they would only have one chance to choose an immortal palace.

As the first batch of trial challengers to enter the third level began choosing their rewards, Lin Ming was still engaged in a bitter battle within the Gate of Laws.

In the endless frosty white air, there was an over 30 foot high giant whose entire body was covered in an armor of snow and ice. Rocks burst apart on the ground as it moved and the nails on its hands were each five feet long, looking like sharp swords, capable of slicing apart the toughest of defenses. At this time, this frost giant was slashing at Lin Ming.

These sword-like nails of snow and frost cut through the void, even freezing the air and creating visible channels of ice.

The icy chill was concentrated on the sharp edges as they chopped forwards.

Lin Ming's heart turned cold. Immediately, the long spear in his hands thrust out thousands of times.

Every spear thrust was enough to rip open the void and sweep up giant space storms. The might and momentum of this attack was endless.

At the same time, the power of the Heretical God Tree swelled forth, growing behind Lin Ming. Every leaf blazed with a wisp of seventh level Concept-fused heavenly tribulation fire.

Woosh woosh woosh - !

Over a dozen wisps of heavenly tribulation flames focused on the point of the long spear, causing the entire spear head to suddenly ignite with a raging flame.

Bang!

The spear collided with the freezing air and icy nail-swords of the giant.

A brutal shockwave swept out, causing ripples to rush out in all directions. Terrifying ravines were torn into the ground from the aftermath and shockwaves.

Lin Ming was forced several hard steps back. As for the frost giant, its entire body shook as it was continuously pushed backwards.

Every time the frost giant took a step back, it would leave a deep impression in the ground.

“How strong!” Lin Ming was shocked. This bodily strength of this frost giant was no less than his! This Asura level difficulty of the Gate of Laws was well worth its reputation. It was actually able to create such a freakish monster.

As this frost giant was forced back by Lin Ming, the ice armor on its body cracked in several places and the corners of its mouth bled a creamy white liquid.

As this liquid appeared, the air filled with a strange and wonderful fragrance.

“That seems to be... nine yin ice marrow?”

Chapter 1683 – Trial of Laws

Lin Ming had slowly studied alchemy over a period of dozens of years, and had some knowledge of rare materials that came from spiritual lands. As he sniffed the air, he could smell that the liquid flowing out from the frost giant's lips was nine yin ice marrow, an extremely precious alchemy material. Was this frost giant formed from nine yin ice marrow?

Before Lin Ming could finish his thoughts, the frost giant rushed forwards like a wild beast. All over its ghostly skin, snow-white runes began to appear like drifting snowflakes falling atop its body.

Every rune shined, emitting bursts of the power of ice and snow that left the heart racing.

The frost giant punched out again and again at the earth. With every strike, the ice runes on its body would pierce through the ground like the roots of a tree, beginning to spread through the frozen earth, constantly expanding...

Just as Lin Ming realized what was happening, there were movements beneath his feet.

A massive ice spike broke through the ground and shot towards Lin Ming.

Lin Ming was startled. He flipped himself over, easily dodging this ice spike.

Woosh! Woosh! Woosh!

Numerous dense ice spikes shot out from the ground, shooting through the void and chasing him as if they were manipulated by countless hands. Every ice spike was covered with shining ice runes.

These ice spikes blocked all the surrounding space, giving Lin Ming no chance to evade!

Seeing so many ice spikes chasing after him, Lin Ming grit his teeth and the grandmist space erupted out from his body. The star-heavy grandmist energy overwhelmed all!

Ka ka ka!

A massive number of ice spikes exploded within the grandmist space. However, pieces of the broken ice spikes still thrust into Lin Ming's body! Blood rained into the air!

This battle was abnormally brutal!

As the frost giant saw that Lin Ming was wounded, an icy light shined in its eyes. It stepped forwards, wanting to tear Lin Ming to pieces.

But at this time its body stiffened. It looked down with incredulity towards its chest. At its chest, at the area where Lin Ming's last spear strike had created a crack in the armor, there was a massive wound. A black-clothed martial artist had sneak attacked it and thrust a spear through its chest!

Ka ka ka!

Countless shards of ice burst to pieces. The black-clothed martial artist's spear was unstoppable! Billions of jins of strength pushed forwards, tearing open that impossibly hard ice armor and piercing all the way through the back!

“Roarr!”

The frost giant pitifully cried out, its large body shaking in the air. The one who sneak attacked it was a black-clothed martial artist completely similar to Lin Ming in appearance; it was Lin Ming's avatar, the Essence Spirit Embryo Stone!

Within the rules of this mystic realm, no external items could be used. But, this Essence Spirit Embryo Stone wasn't counted among these objects and was considered a part of Lin Ming's natural combat strength, allowing him to summon it at all. A moment before now, while Lin Ming's true self was attacking the frost

giant, the Essence Spirit Embryo Stone was lying in wait, waiting to strike at the frost giant's weak point and bring it down in a single strike!

Rumble rumble rumble!

Chunks of ice fell to the earth. From within the disintegrating body of the frost giant, a rich aura of Ice Laws began to pour out.

However, Lin Ming didn't cultivate the Ice Laws. Even if he tried to perceive it, he still wouldn't obtain any good harvests.

Lin Ming wasn't interested in these Ice Laws. Rather, he looked at the pile of scattered ice chunks and reached out his hand. With a wave, he grasped at the void and grabbed onto a mass of thick milky white liquid, as if it were milk from 10,000 year stalactites. Then, without further ado, Lin Ming swallowed it all down!

This was the nine yin ice marrow that was contained within the frost giant. Swallowing it down like this could be called a waste of heaven's resources. If it were used in alchemy, the results would be much better.

But Lin Ming had no choice. He had to rapidly restore his strength and there was no time for him to rest. In this situation, he definitely wouldn't let go of this nine yin ice marrow.

At this time, with a loud rumbling sound, the silver door that Lin Ming just entered began to slowly dim down and fade away.

As Lin Ming blinked, he had once again returned to the ancient continent. In front of him, countless numbers of golden gates stood once more! In just several breaths of time, with a creaking sound, another gate turned silver and began to rumble open in front of him!

Past the entrance of this gate, another completely different world appeared.

Here, green trees towered to the skies, filled with vibrantly lush tones and vitality.

But, this vivid vitality also contained a wild killing intent.

“The second gate...”

Lin Ming took a deep breath. His body was still dripping blood. And because he just had just eaten the nine yin ice marrow, a terrifying cold energy was still recklessly surging through his body. He hadn't had enough time to absorb it all.

And now, a new gate had opened before him. Lin Ming knew that he would have to face another battle!

Without a doubt, from all the golden gates atop this floating ancient continent, he would have to battle through every one that turned silver! And, he was afraid that he wouldn't be given any time to rest at all. This would be an arduous and difficult protracted battle!

And within each gate, the Laws contained inside were different.

Whether it was the elemental Laws of metal, wood, water, fire, earth, thunder, or wind, or perhaps the Laws of Yin and Yang, the Laws of the divine soul, the Laws of body transformation, God Beasts, Nine Stars, divine runes, every Law possible was contained here. These were fully comprehensive Gates of Laws!

The Laws here were not just the Asura Laws, but all the Laws within the 33 Heavens.

Thus, this was why the gate leading from the second level to the third level was called the Gate of Laws!

To fight here was not just a test of a trial challenger, but also a lucky chance.

By passing through battles of these different Laws, one could temper their own cultivation and comprehensions. If an unrivalled genius were to fight here, they would become stronger with every successive battle!

This required that a trial challenger have formidable strength,

rich combat experience, infinite endurance, and a monstrous comprehension of the Laws. Moreover, it required that a trial challenger have exceptional perception where they could constantly perceive and absorb what was happening during battle.

Only with all of this could one pass this test!

As Lin Ming fought to here, he could faintly feel the difficulty in this trial slowly increasing. If he couldn't adapt to this increasing difficulty then he would sooner or later be eliminated.

The world of Laws didn't give Lin Ming a chance to rest. A blue light shot out from the silver gate, wrapping him within and sucking him inside.

Past this gate was a vast primitive jungle. Any casual tree was as thick as dozens of people and a thousand of feet high!

A blue flood dragon circled above the crown of a 1000 foot high great tree, its greedy eyes locked onto Lin Ming!

Lin Ming wiped the blood from the corners of his mouth, a brilliant fighting intent flashing in his eyes.

“Roar!!”

The blue flood dragon roared and came hurtling towards Lin Ming!

Lin Ming's thoughts focused. Atop his head, the phantoms of nine celestial stars hung high in the skies. A grand and magnificent Heavenly Retribution Dao Palace floated within the sea of Lin Ming's inner world. In the midst of this Dao Palace, the power of heavenly retribution contained within the myriad beings in existence sparked to life. There was crackling thunder, blazing heavenly fire, and even the icy yin chill of the nether world...

“Momentum of the world, gather unto my body!”

Lin Ming growled. The Heavenly Retribution Dao Palace suddenly rose up in the space of Lin Ming's inner world, spanning

through the heavens and earth, emitting brilliant beams of radiance. For a time, with the Heavenly Retribution Dao Palace as the medium, the power of the heavens and earth poured into Lin Ming's mortal body!

The Heavenly Retribution Dao Palace was able to connect to the momentum of the world and wield the power of heavenly retribution. Within the small universe that was a person's body, it was able to correspond with the true, boundless universe, communing with the heavens and earth, allowing a martial artist to become one with the world.

When this Dao Palace opened to the extreme and displayed its true potential, the heavens would rain blood, the earth would shatter, the void would tear apart, and even gods and ghosts would cry!

In that moment, Lin Ming felt his strength erupt to the limits. Starlight from the highest nine heavens gathered into Lin Ming's inner world, carrying with it a heavy and titanic potential as it went slashing towards the blue flood dragon, suppressing it. The ultimate death energy contained within the Heavenly Retribution Dao Palace, the symbol of heaven's punishment, was like the ultimate poison as it invaded the life-filled aura of the blue flood dragon.

Rumble rumble rumble!

The blue flood dragon's body slowed as it faced a grave situation. The vigorous life-force energy it erupted with had been stopped and suppressed. This blue flood dragon was like a sly fish, leaping up and around, searching for openings, wanting to swim against this river of energy and attack Lin Ming!

However, Lin Ming had passed through innumerable fights before. How could he give this blue flood dragon any chances to do that?

In a battle, if Lin Ming found the method to seize the flow of

battle and defeat his enemy, he absolutely wouldn't let them go. With a loud shout, all of his true essence crazily revolved. His two hands flashed, forming countless seals that carried with them the aura of the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws, all of them hurtling towards the blue flood dragon.

Myriad Demon Karmic Wheel!

Whorl whorl whorl whorl –

A dense and thick death energy turned into a black vortex that went crashing into the blue flood dragon.

The blue flood dragon had already been unable to handle the power of heavenly retribution. In this situation, it had been smashed into by the Myriad Demon Karmic Wheel.

The Myriad Demon Karmic Wheel was refined with the spirits of evil ghosts and demon kings. It was a gathering of extreme yin energy and slaughter energy. It was a power that suppressed the blue flood dragon's wood-attribute life aura to the extreme.

Moreover, the Myriad Demon Karmic Wheel originated from the Asura Sutra. It was one of Lin Ming's strongest attacks!

Immediately, beneath the dual barrage of the Heavenly Retribution Dao Palace and the Myriad Demon Karmic Wheel, the blue flood dragon howled in pain again and again. Its radiant blue body dimmed as it wildly struggled!

Xiu!

Lin Ming took this chance to hurtle forwards along with the Essence Spirit Embryo Stone. In tandem, two spears thrust into the blue flood dragon!

Puff!

Spear light exploded. The blue flood dragon was nearly ripped in half by Lin Ming's attack. Its blood rained to the earth!

Within the hail of rain that covered the world, Lin Ming grabbed

onto a bright blue flood dragon gallbladder. This fist-sized blue flood dragon gallbladder wildly beat like a living heart.

Without hesitation, Lin Ming swallowed this blue flood dragon gallbladder.

This battle was too brutal. He had to find some way to sustain himself through these battles, otherwise even with his endurance he still wouldn't be able to last much longer.

As the blue flood dragon gallbladder entered his stomach, it turned into a rich and pure wood-attribute origin energy that flooded his body, revitalizing him.

This blue flood dragon was not a true flood dragon, but one that was manifested from a wooden spirit root. This blue flood dragon gallbladder wasn't a true blue flood dragon gallbladder either, but the essence of the wooden spirit root.

Now, the essence of the wooden spirit root had been eaten up by Lin Ming.

As Lin Ming was engaged in a series of brutal battles, Xiao Moxian and Soul Empress Sheng Mei, who had both chosen the heaven-step difficulty, were also engaged in fierce combat.

The Gate of Laws contained every Law within the 33 Great Daos. Every Law condensed into an enemy and in order to pass through the trial, one had to strike down every opponent.

Xiao Moxian was younger than Lin Ming thus her difficulty was a bit lower. The enemies she faced were naturally much weaker than the ones Lin Ming faced.

But Sheng Mei was different. Although she had chosen a lower difficulty, because of her skeletal age, the enemies she had to face were dozens or hundreds of times stronger than Lin Ming's opponents!

In Sheng Mei's trial, every time she fought, the void would shatter and the earth would shake!

Chapter 1684 – Black Asura

The different difficulties of the Gate of Laws were tremendously different from each other. The easiest difficulty might take only several days to end, but the harder difficulties could take dozens of days.

Lin Ming had already undergone innumerable slaughters on countless battlefields atop this ancient continent!

His hair was scattered and his clothes were torn and ragged. There was an unknown number of wounds that covered his entire body.

Of these wounds, some were so deep they revealed white bone. Some cut through his meridians, and some had nearly torn apart his arms, shoulders, and even thighs!

If he hadn't cultivated the Nine Stars of the Dao Palace, then these severe wounds alone would have caused Lin Ming to lose all his combat strength. He would have died countless times in this trial already.

Peng!

Lin Ming held a long spear in his hands and swept outwards. Electric light rose from all directions and flames filled the air. An over 200 foot giant was crushed by Lin Ming's attack!

Blood shot out. The giant's body wildly shook. As it crashed against the earth, it caused the ground to quake.

Dark energy without the slightest sheen began to flicker atop the surface of the giant's body, turning into all sorts of strange Law runes. In the next moment, the giant's corpse disappeared.

The Great Dao of the 33 Havens was infinite and all-encompassing. There were countless variations, and the Heavenly Dao Laws that this giant used were something that Lin Ming had never seen before!

Lin Ming had killed this giant, but he had also paid a steep price to do so. On his back, there were deep three foot long wounds that stretched from his shoulders to his thighs. Even his ribs were exposed to the air. This was damage left behind by an axe cutting down on Lin Ming's back!

This giant strength was over 10 billion jins and its axe could sunder the earth. Even though Lin Ming's mortal body intensity neared that of a God Beast, a direct strike like this was still more than enough to give him a severe wound!

Even so, Lin Ming relied on his stubborn will to continue onwards and strike down this black giant!

Fresh blood continuously flowed from his body. Lin Ming sunk energy into his dantian. On his back, his blood vessels surged as his meridians and flesh started to regenerate. However, compared to when he first entered this Gate of Laws, his regeneration speed was clearly far slower.

No matter how great Lin Ming's endurance was, he was nearing his limit after undergoing all these fights.

Moreover, in the previous battles, many of the enemies that Lin Ming struck down were formed from heavenly materials. Lin Ming swallowed these heavenly materials afterwards to restore his strength.

But every advantage came with disadvantages. Although Lin Ming was able to restore a great deal of his strength, the massive amount of energy had remained within Lin Ming's body as he was unable to refine it all in the little time he had. This also caused his blood vitality to surge chaotically, leaving him in a horrible condition.

But even though Lin Ming was dancing on the edge of his limits, he was still able to display a dreadful combat strength and cut down all the powerful enemies he encountered. Many times, when his back was pushed to a wall, he was able to erupt with an even

greater strength, becoming stronger the more he fought!

These types of people were naturally born fighters; Lin Ming was the perfect example.

But even until now, the fights still hadn't ended nor was there any rest. The golden gates atop the ancient mainland encompassed the 33 Heavenly Daos, and each opponent was able to come up with new methods of attack one after another, all of their abilities dazzling and wonderful.

Although Lin Ming had cut down every enemy he encountered, he felt nothing but increasing awe in his heart.

To be able to establish such a Gate of Laws meant that the Asura Road Master had an unfathomably profound understanding into any Great Dao of the 33 Heavenly Daos.

This caused Lin Ming to inexplicably remember the words that had been left in the preface of the Asura Sutra.

'The 33 Heavens, the boundless Great Dao. My resolve is to seek the peak of all martial arts. I spent 3.3 billion years to travel through the 33 Heavens, cultivating 33 lives. One life one Empyrean, one life one Divinity. What I seek is the highest truth of the Heavenly Dao...'

Without a doubt, the Asura Road Master had cultivated the 33 Heavenly Daos and had synthesized them together. Only then was he able to form the Asura Heavenly Dao that existed independently and outside of the 33 Heavenly Daos!

In order to achieve all of this, the boundary required was hard to imagine. Just what sort of daring was that!

Lin Ming himself was only a mere hundred some years old. Compared to the Asura Road Master who had lived at least 3.3 billion years, the disparity was too great.

Rumble rumble rumble!

The golden gate entrance faded away once more; this represented the end of this world. Without caring for his wounds, Lin Ming's surroundings faded and he returned to the ancient continent.

However, this time, Lin Ming was startled. He discovered that almost all of the countless golden gates in front of him had disappeared. Now, in front of Lin Ming, there was only a single gate remaining!

This great gate was much heavier than the other golden gates. The surface of this gate was covered with an ancient relief, one that resembled a war god!

This gray war god rode a giant dragon, his entire body wrapped in chains. He held a dragon spear in his hand, seemingly all-powerful, unparalleled in the world.

Then, this final golden gate began to open! The boundless aura of the Great Dao gushed out from the entrance.

In that moment, Lin Ming's surroundings vanished once more and the ancient continent faded away. Lin Ming seemed to arrive in some vast and wild desolate land. At the end of this wasteland was a black demon carrying a dragon spear. He wore blood red armor and his armor was wrapped with heavy chains. His deep red hair was scattered in the wind and he rode a giant black dragon beneath him!

This character was the exact same as the one illustrated on the gate's relief!

Without knowing why, a single word appeared in Lin Ming's mind – Asura!

It seemed that this black war god in front of him was the so-called Asura!

Was this the final opponent of the trial of Laws?

Lin Ming grasped his long spear and stood straight. For a time, he felt an incomparably horrifying pressure!

It seemed that this Black Asura was far more terrifying than an Empyrean. Just standing there at the end of this vast wasteland, the aura alone left Lin Ming gasping for breath.

Against such an enemy, what hopes did he have of winning?

As Lin Ming held onto his spear, his back began to drip with sweat.

He didn't fear any challenge. But in the end, his cultivation was limited and he was not some invincible being. If he faced off against a slightly stronger opponent, he could rely on his will, skill, and endurance to win. But when facing an absolute powerhouse, Lin Ming was actually helpless.

He knew that if he were to fight against this Black Asura, it would be nothing but a futile struggle!

At this time, the Black Asura moved. He leapt down from that giant black dragon!

“Roar!”

The instant that the Black Asura landed on the ground, the black dragon behind him emitted an earth-shattering roar. The ground shivered and boulders cracked apart. A dreadful shockwave swept over Lin Ming, sending his hair flying backwards. By supporting himself with his spear, he managed to stand his ground. However, the blood vitality within his body was sent fiercely tumbling about as if he had been severely wounded!

Just a single roar from that black dragon had this much power behind it. This was not something that a mere God Beast phantom could accomplish. It might be that the black dragon at the end of this wasteland was a true God Beast!

“God Beast...”

Lin Ming's eyes were solemn. Compared to the roar of the black dragon when Lin Ming first entered the Eternal Demon Abyss's thousand mile forbidden zone, this roar far surpassed it!

Lin Ming lifted his spear and focused his mind. If this fight was inevitable then his only choice was to struggle as best as he could!

Crackle crackle crackle!

The Black Asura stepped forwards, one step at a time, his thick armor striking against itself. From behind the Black Asura, a black wheel condensed. Within this black wheel there were countless demonic phantoms, all of them still painfully struggling with each other in eternal torment.

Myriad Demon Karmic Wheel!

Lin Ming recognized that this black wheel was the Asura Sutra's Myriad Demon Karmic Wheel!

Lin Ming was only able to form and sustain the Myriad Demon Karmic Wheel for a short period of time. But, this Black Asura was able to condense the Myriad Demon Karmic Wheel behind himself, turning it into something that increased his strength.

From where Lin Ming stood to the ends of this wasteland was a distance of 100 miles. But, that Black Asura only took several steps to cross this 100 mile distance and stand in front of Lin Ming.

Lin Ming raised his vigilance to the limit. But at this time, the Black Asura opened his mouth to speak. Ever since Lin Ming entered this final trial, this was the first time he had heard an enemy here speak!

The Black Asura's voice was heavy and dark, like the sound of metal striking metal.

"Withstand my three moves then you shall pass the Gate of Laws!"

Three moves!

Lin Ming's pupils shrank.

This wasn't defeating the Black Asura, but withstanding three of his moves. If so, there were some hopes after all.

“Six hours! I will give you six hours to rest and restore your condition. Then, I will attack. After every move I shall allow you six more hours to rest. If you cannot meet my strike then you will die!

“If you do not have faith in yourself then you may give up midway. In fact, you may choose to give up now and you will pass the Gate of Laws all the same.”

As the Black Asura slowly spoke, Lin Ming’s thoughts stirred.

To give up now meant that he wouldn’t be able to perfectly complete the trial. Since Lin Ming chose the Asura level difficulty, he naturally had to try perfectly completing it.

Otherwise, he might as well have chosen the heaven-step difficulty.

Lin Ming didn’t say anything. Instead, as he held onto his spear, his eyes blazed with fighting spirit. His manner already spoke what choice he had made. He absolutely could not give up here.

“Good!” The Black Asura said with his ice cold voice, devoid of any feeling. “If you can withstand my three moves then I shall grant you something. It is also one of the most precious rewards within the entire Asura Road’s final trial!”

“One of the most precious rewards?”

Lin Ming’s mind began to race. He already knew that the different levels of difficulty of the Gate of Laws corresponded to different rewards.

And in terms of individual difficulties, perfectly completing, partially completing, and barely completing also gave different rewards.

For those like the Divine Void Third Crown Prince, they would choose the second difficulty in order to ensure they could perfectly complete it.

Since Lin Ming chose the unprecedented Asura difficulty, he was already anticipating what the rewards would be like.

And now, according to the Black Asura's words, this reward would be one of the most precious rewards in the entire final trial! This caused Lin Ming to look forwards to this even more! The Asura Road's final trial was left behind by the Asura Road Master, and the preciousness of the treasures that the Asura Road Master left behind could be imagined.

Compared to that, the sum of the countless heavenly materials that Lin Ming ate before was nothing at all.

Lin Ming didn't ask the Black Asura what the reward was. Instead, he stabbed his spear into the ground and immediately sat down in meditation.

The energies within Lin Ming were chaotic. Right now he had to sort out all of these energies. Only then could he restore himself to his peak condition and resist the Black Asura's attack!

One didn't need to be a genius to know that the Black Asura's attack would shake the heavens and earth. And of these three moves, it was likely that each would be stronger than the last!

Chapter 1685 – Three Moves

Time was life. To Lin Ming, these six hours were incomparably precious.

With Lin Ming's current physical condition he was in an extremely bad situation. His body had innumerable wounds and he was severely exhausted of true essence and blood vitality!

Because of the continuous battles, Lin Ming hadn't had any time to recover at all. This had left him barely able to sustain himself through the fruits of his battle, supplementing his inner energy with those dozens of types of heavenly materials.

However, which one of these heavenly materials was easy to refine?

Lin Ming didn't have time to refine them within his body, leading to all sorts of different attributed energies building up within him. This caused all of the energy within his body to turn chaotic!

Now, within the next six short hours, Lin Ming had to refine all of these different types of energy, straighten out his meridians, and restore his blood vitality, all while he transferred energy to heal his wounds. This was a nearly impossible task!

If it were a normal martial artist, then let alone six hours, even three days and three nights wouldn't be enough time.

Even though Lin Ming had absorbed the blood of a True Dragon and True Phoenix, and even opened two Dao Palaces of the Nine Stars of the Dao Palace, wanting to accomplish all of this was extremely difficult.

In other words, when the Black Asura had given Lin Ming six hours to recover, he hadn't intended for Lin Ming to restore himself to his peak condition to begin with.

In that moment, Lin Ming took a deep breath and shut his eyes,

completely entering into an ethereal trance-like state.

During his time at Mount Potala, Lin Ming had stepped into the Irreproachable Stupa and entered the extreme pure lands of bliss there. Underneath the shade of a Bodhi tree, he had imitated what the human Empyrean Emperor Shakya had done and meditated for 33 days. In this time, he completely focused the ethereal martial intent, Samsara martial intent, and Primordius martial intent together, mixing them into a singular unified martial intent.

Now, in this crucial moment that concerned Lin Ming's life or death, he displayed this fused martial intent to enter a completely focused and selfless state!

As Lin Ming sat down, an independent space seemed to form around him, isolating him from the vast wasteland.

Faintly, the phantom of an old tree seemed to appear behind Lin Ming.

This tree was similar to the Heretical God Tree. But, compared to the Heretical God Tree phantom that appeared behind Lin Ming, it was far older and more vigorous. Its bark was cracked open and only several leaves decorated its crown. But every leaf dripped verdant green, glistening with a gem-like brilliance as if it were carved from the most wonderful green jade.

As Lin Ming used his fused martial intent to recover, the phenomenon of a Bodhi Tree appeared behind him. For a time, petals fell around him and the sounds of spirit springs echoed in the air. It was like a separate utopia had developed around Lin Ming.

As the Black Asura saw this scene appear around Lin Ming, a flash of surprise appeared in his icy cold eyes. He had never imagined that Lin Ming, someone who was wrapped in endless infernal energy, someone who violently fought and was bathed in constant blood and slaughter, would have such a tranquil and harmonic martial intent.

Two hours, four hours...

Lin Ming sat within these lands of pure bliss, motionless, like he had cast away all desire and become a Buddha.

Whether it was the Samsara martial intent or ethereal martial intent, both were martial intents that leaned towards the tenants of Buddhism. They perfectly suited Lin Ming's cultivation within Mount Potala.

Finally, six hours passed. Before the Black Asura spoke a single word, Lin Ming's eyes flashed open.

Nearly all of the chaotic energies within Lin Ming's body had been cleanly refined. The wounds on his body were also restored. Although he wasn't at his peak state, it wasn't much different.

He stood up, faced the Black Asura, and took a deep breath as he shouted out, "Let's go!"

The Black Asura was different from all other enemies that Lin Ming had encountered in the final trial so far. This Black Asura had its own will and thoughts, and Lin Ming even suspected that he was related to the Asura Road Master. Perhaps he was an artifact spirit left behind by the Asura Road Master, or perhaps it was an incarnation produced from a tiny wisp of the Asura Road Master's consciousness.

Without a single word spoken, the Black Asura suddenly punched his fist towards Lin Ming!

This fist thrust out without any sign, nor did there seem to be any strength gathered unto it. It was only a simple punch. But as this Black Asura punched out, the void in front of him seemed to squeeze together due to the horrifying fist potential.

The power of countless Laws gathered from all directions, converging onto the Black Asura's fist. For a time the Black Asura's fist created its own unyielding momentum!

"This is my slaughter fist intent. If you can receive it then you'll

have passed the first attack!”

The Black Asura’s icy metallic voice echoed out. His first strike wasn’t quick, but because of the horrifying fist potential behind it, Lin Ming was covered within it, his body stiffening and making it hard for him to move.

Suddenly, it seemed as if countless demons and ghosts appeared, ranting and raving in Lin Ming’s ears. Lin Ming seemed to arrive on an Asura battlefield. There was an endless smell of blood and death. Corpses lay everywhere and rivers of blood flowed!

This Asura war god was originally a death god. This slaughter fist intent was formed from the endless infernal energy and countless lives that the Asura war god had slain!

If Lin Ming’s mindset wasn’t firm, he would drown in this slaughter fist intent. Even his consciousness would be melted away by this infernal energy and he would lose sense of his own existence.

In order to withstand the Black Asura’s fist, not only would Lin Ming have to face the physical fist but also the tremendous slaughter intent behind it!

After understanding this, Lin Ming fiercely bit down on his tongue, using the pain to wash away any haziness in his mind. At the same time, the blue soul battle spirit flew out from within Lin Ming’s spiritual sea!

Woo – Woo – Woo –

The battle spirit howled out, slashing apart the void.

The higher level a battle spirit was, the more difficult it was to enhance. Lin Ming’s current battle spirit level was already at small success of the blue soul level. Moreover, there was grandmist energy condensed within it, making it that much stronger!

As the battle spirit appeared, the immense amount of evil spirits and demons contained within the fist intent were broken apart by

the blue soul battle spirit. For a time, the mournful howls of ghosts filled the air!

The Black Asura's slaughter fist intent was horrifying. Even though he had only displayed a fraction of his true strength, this was enough to cause Lin Ming's battle spirit to be mired in air. It wasn't like the past, where the appearance of the battle spirit brought with it an unstoppable might!

Ca!

Cruel demons and evil spirits were torn apart by the blue soul battle spirit. At the same time, the light of Lin Ming's blue soul battle spirit also rapidly dimmed!

This sudden turn of events caused a light of astonishment to appear in the Black Asura's eyes. He never imagined that a human like Lin Ming would have such outstanding attainments in the aspect of battle spirits.

Meanwhile, the Black Asura's fist strength became even fiercer and crazier. It was like a rising tsunami, shattering the void!

An indescribably terrifying strength fell onto Lin Ming's body in torrents!

Because of the blue soul battle spirit's counterattack, there wasn't much slaughter intent left in the Black Asura's fist. However, just the striking power of this fist was more than horrifying!

This strike smashed into Lin Ming!

Lin Ming's pupils shrank. The spear in his hands thrust outwards as he opened the Purple Temple Dao Palace and Heavenly Retribution Dao Palace together!

For a time, Lin Ming's bodily strength rose to dozens of billions of jins. With the support of the Celestial Tyrant Manual, his strength neared that of ten dragons!

His spear collided with the Black Asura's fist!

It was like a meteor crashing into the earth. The ground rose up, lifted and blown away by the terrifying shockwaves that reverberated outwards!

In this tyrannical storm, Lin Ming felt a terrifying energy run down the long spear and into his body. His arms shook and blood vessels cracked apart all over his arms. The energy broke into his body, and no matter how tough his body was, it still caused his blood to tumble and his organs to be injured!

Lin Ming was sent soaring backwards like a broken kite falling from the skies. In a single strike, he was forced back dozens of miles before he came to a skittering halt. He stabbed his spear into the wasteland to support himself. Both of his arms were slick with blood.

In just a breath of time, Lin Ming stood up once more. He looked at the Black Asura that stood still several dozen miles away!

A blazing fighting spirit burned ever bright in his eyes.

The Black Asura looked at Lin Ming with surprise. He hadn't thought that Lin Ming would still be able to stand after this strike.

This was because the blue soul battle spirit had broken through most of the slaughter fist intent, making it so that Lin Ming only had to withstand the physical attack of the fist itself. This caused the pressure of the attack to be reduced by a great deal. When added in with the fact that Lin Ming opened two Dao Palaces and his body was terrifyingly strong, it wasn't too difficult for him to withstand this strike!

"You have six hours to rest."

The Black Asura expressionlessly said. Even though he was dozens of miles away, his voice was clear as it sounded out next to Lin Ming's ears.

"No need! A quarter hour is enough!"

Lin Ming's words were firm and filled with confidence. He gripped his spear and began moving towards the Black Asura.

“How amusing!”

The Black Asura's hard lips moved, as if he were faintly smiling.

“Since you are so confident, then... very well! Prepare yourself to withstand my second attack!”

As he spoke, the dark gray Myriad Demon Karmic Wheel that slowly spun behind the Black Asura flew up and fell in between his hands.

His second strike was clearly the Myriad Demon Karmic Wheel.

Lin Ming's eyes were cold and resolute. Step by step, he walked towards the Black Asura. As he walked, the ruptured flesh and blood vessels on his arms began to wriggle. His muscles and blood vessels rapidly regenerated, becoming whole again. With the support of his dual dragon and phoenix bloodlines, Lin Ming possessed a terrifying resilience!

To call out a quarter hour was not because Lin Ming was arrogant or too full of himself, but because he wanted to rely on the fighting spirit that bubbled over in his body to contend with the Black Asura in a single go!

Lin Ming's steps were slow and steady. In a quarter hour's time, he had walked a mere several dozen miles!

At the time arrived, he just happened to reach the front of the Black Asura once more.

Then, the Black Asura attacked!

The spinning Myriad Demon Karmic Wheel released 10,000 beams of ghostly light. Howls filled the air, like the cries and screams of 10,000 ghosts and demons, alarming to the ears!

A dreadful demonic strength gushed out around the wheel, burning around it like brilliant black flames. These flames

transformed into a monstrous being with three heads and six arms. Behind this Asura phantom, two massive wings spread forth and unfurled in the air. This Asura phantom's six arms each held different weapons, and in front of its body was also a Wheel of Samsara!

The Black Asura thrust out his palm. This Myriad Demon Karmic Wheel, like the legendary Wheel of Samsara that ruled over all threads of fate, hurtled towards Lin Ming!

And at this time, the Heretical God Force within Lin Ming opened. His body erupted with energy to its limits as countless lines of the Asura Laws gathered in front of him, condensing into a black wheel.

This black wheel had infinite cruel demons condensed within it and it was also being held against the chest of a three-headed six-armed Asura war god. This wheel that Lin Ming summoned was exactly the same as the wheel that the Black Asura used – it was also the Myriad Demon Karmic Wheel!

Seeing this, the Black Asura was startled. Myriad Demon Karmic Wheel against Myriad Demon Karmic Wheel! This trial challenger also cultivated the Asura Heavenly Dao!

Chapter 1686 – Profound Laws

“Interesting...”

The Black Asura lifted his hands and the Myriad Demon Karmic Wheel came crashing down!

Lin Ming didn't retreat at all. With the sound of a whirling vortex, a strange black spiritual strength shot out from his body, slowly floating atop the Myriad Demon Karmic Wheel.

The black spiritual energy slowly transformed into a phantom.

Roiling with dread, a black robed man appeared within the Myriad Demon Karmic Wheel. He wore bronze armor and had the appearance of a demon. As he towered like a mountain, he emitted a black light, his pupils dark and gloomy.

This man was none other than Tian Mingzi!

In these past years, using the Myriad Demon Karmic Wheel, Lin Ming had swallowed the souls or residual wills of many powerhouses.

Among these were his mortal blood enemy Tian Mingzi, the residual will of the desolate mortals within the Forsaken Mortal Tomb, the aura of the God Beast phantoms he had destroyed, and their Laws.

These powerful phantoms created infinite changes within Lin Ming's Myriad Demon Karmic Wheel. Even the space around him trembled.

As this terrifying aura of dead spirits rampaged in all directions, a brilliant light shined in the Black Asura's eyes. He didn't think this youth would have such a gentle and calm ethereal martial intent but also such a cruel and powerful Myriad Demon Karmic Wheel!

None of these powerful existences sealed within the Myriad Demon Karmic Wheel were a trifling matter. The Black Asura

found it hard to imagine just how Lin Ming had sealed them in.

And there was actually someone in front of him who dared to use the same skill! To the Black Asura, this was a provocation.

Within the Black Asura's heart, mighty waves began to form.

The obsidian pupils of the Black Asura began to swirl like a shadow vortex. All of the black lines of the Asura Heavenly Dao in the air were galvanized to an even greater degree of the power of the Asura Laws, all of it gathering in the black wheel.

The wheel expanded again and again and the Asura phantom also grew, as if it were about to soar into the heavens.

Where the black flames went, even space itself was melted away by the flickering dark power. The holes it formed in space dotted the sky like a honeycomb. The power of space poured out of these tears, rampaging in all directions.

The jet black flames blotted out the skies and came sweeping towards Lin Ming.

"This move, how will you meet it?" The Black Asura's voice was icy cold, carrying with it a momentum that seemed as if it could destroy all wills.

Lin Ming's pupils shrank. He could feel that the dark flames before him contained dense and innumerable Asura Heavenly Dao Laws, some of them containing the power of Laws that he had never comprehended before.

The gigantic and powerful pitch black flames seemed as if they could burn apart the universe.

But a heroic and daring spirit surged within Lin Ming's heart. Even if he were to be defeated, he still would not retreat!

"10,000 demons, life and death, I am the lord of demons!"

Lin Ming cried out in his heart. As he did, a blood red light flashed in his eyes. A great blood essence blood energy shot out

from his skin, nose, and mouth, brilliantly shining as it flew into the Myriad Demon Karmic Wheel.

In the middle of this Myriad Demon Karmic Wheel, the Asura war god developed a faint similarity to Lin Ming.

The endless blood essence formed into a giant phantom of Lin Ming. This phantom grasped the Phoenix Blood Spear, its infernal energy soaring to the heavens. In the midst of these 10,000 demons, it was like the lord of demons had appeared. Its lofty and arrogant aura rose as it commanded all the demons and spirits like Tian Mingzi to meet the incoming enemy.

In that moment, the momentum of this attack was no less than the Myriad Demon Karmic Wheel that the Black Asura had sent out.

In the void, one could only see two massive spinning wheels collide against each other, smashing against each other like two grinding pans.

Bang! Bang! Bang!

Each time they collided and fought, the surrounding space would be torn apart. The phantoms within the black wheel violently battled and engulfed each other. A space storm formed and even they were sucked into the swirling black vortex where they disappeared without a trace.

Vast tracts of space were twisted apart. As some ruptured pieces of demonic energy fell to the ground, they were as heavy as mountains and created unfathomable deep craters.

Lin Ming had invested a tremendous amount of life essence into the Myriad Demon Karmic Wheel, so he could directly feel the spinning power of it.

Every time the wheels clashed, it was like a massive grinding pan was viciously crashing into his body. His previous injuries had yet to recover and blood shot out from his wounds. As this blood shot

out from his body, they did so with such force and speed that they created holes in space.

An agonizing pain that rose from the depths of his soul occupied the entirety of Lin Ming's mind.

But at the same time, in this most direct collision, Lin Ming's life essence was able to touch against the Myriad Demon Karmic Wheel that the Black Asura had formed.

“What is that?”

His life essence could clearly feel the unique exquisiteness of the Black Asura's Myriad Demon Karmic Wheel. The Myriad Demon Karmic Wheel that the Black Asura formed was far more profound and large.

As for the Myriad Demon Karmic Wheel that Lin Ming had formed, when compared to the Black Asura's, it was the same as comparing the home of an ordinary mortal to the majestic castle of a noble.

Although Lin Ming had the support of auras from all sorts of powerhouses, when his wheel faced the more perfect Myriad Demon Karmic Wheel from the Black Asura, it began to lose ground...

The reason for this gradual loss was not because of a difference in strength, but because of a difference in the subtle exquisiteness of the Laws!

Finally, with a loud rumbling sound, the Myriad Demon Karmic Wheel that Lin Ming formed completely exploded.

At the same time, the Black Asura's Myriad Demon Karmic Wheel was also crushed into a ball of black energy. But as it stood, this remaining amount was still terrifying. It carried with it a dreadful annihilating momentum as it came hurtling towards Lin Ming.

Lin Ming's heart skipped a beat and all the hair on his body stood

on end. This black energy was the essence of the Black Asura's Myriad Demon Karmic Wheel. If he were to be struck by it, perhaps he would perish here!

After burning a great amount of his life essence and in addition worsen his wounds, Lin Ming was embattled from all sides. His current condition was miserable beyond compare, and his divine soul seemed like a candle flickering in the wind, almost unable to withstand the continued burden.

But he never thought of giving up. He would not die here!

“Purple Temple Dao Palace – open!”

Gritting his teeth, blood began flowing from Lin Ming's eyes.

Suddenly, a star seemed to rise up from Lin Ming's body, shining down on the world like a bright moon.

Within Lin Ming's body, the massive accumulation of vitality and life force was opened by the Purple Temple Dao Palace.

Within his body, the roar of a distant dragon could be heard.

Ancient and primal, its vivid aura seemed to travel through the river of time from the distant past until now. A giant Azure Dragon appeared, rushing out from Lin Ming's flesh and blood.

The Azure Dragon spanned the heavens and earth, emitting the majesty of a noble dragon. It violently clashed with the essence of the Myriad Demon Karmic Wheel.

Within the void, the Azure Dragon was shattered like glass by the small black ball of energy.

As for that small black ball of energy, it was reduced to a tiny speck that struck Lin Ming.

This tiny speck rushed into Lin Ming's body.

Standing high in the air, Lin Ming's entire body shook. His blood red pupils turned incomparably strange and ghostly as a black vortex slowly swirled within them.

Puff, puff!

A deep and heavy force began to explode within him.

In the next moment, countless bones shattered in his body. Lin Ming vomited out a mouthful of blood and fell to the ground like a broken kite.

The Black Asura stepped through space and immediately appeared in the skies above Lin Ming's ruined body. Standing high, he indifferently looked down at Lin Ming.

"Nine Stars of the Dao Palace, hm... He is so young and yet he cultivated the Nine Stars of the Dao Palace. In this era, this truly is a miracle..."

The Black Asura appeared lost in thought.

At this time, lying on the ground, Lin Ming felt endless streams of pain piercing into his brain, making him feel as if his head would explode.

But at the same time, an even greater surprise appeared within Lin Ming's heart.

He had obtained some new Asura Laws. They were like worms in his blood, floating in his marrow.

These things were comprehensions of the Black Asura's Myriad Demon Karmic Wheel after colliding with it and having a part of it smash into his body.

These were truly things comprehended with valor and blood.

As he comprehended these new things, his bones and muscles that were destroyed by the Asura Laws began to rapidly recover under Lin Ming's control.

His inner injuries, beneath the influence of the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws, began to rapidly swallow spiritual power from the surroundings to regenerate.

Broken bones began to mend together. Within, his marrow

gurgled as fresh blood was produced. His pale complexion began to slowly restore with a rosy tint.

Within the Black Asura's pitch black pupils, he could clearly see every minute change occurring within Lin Ming's body.

So, when these new Asura Heavenly Dao Laws appeared, even the Black Asura revealed a different expression.

"Eh? Not only wasn't he killed by my Myriad Demon Karmic Wheel, but he seemed to have grasped even more things about the Asura Heavenly Dao..."

A strange expression formed on the Black Asura's face.

Such a trial challenger was far too terrifying!

In that strike just now, the Black Asura estimated it would be extremely difficult for Lin Ming to withstand. After all, Lin Ming's understanding of the Asura Heavenly Dao was far too limited and it was impossible to compare their two Myriad Demon Karmic Wheels.

But in the critical moment when Lin Ming faced the aftermath of the Black Asura's attack, he had opened the Nine Stars of the Dao palace, using his powerful mortal body and blood vitality to forcefully withstand the Black Asura's attack. Although Lin Ming's body had been ruined, he had still been able to preserve the source of his life.

The Black Asura hadn't thought that when Lin Ming was on the precipice of life and death, he would actually obtain new comprehensions into the Asura Heavenly Dao!

When facing this type of person, if one didn't kill them, they would only become increasingly strong. They were the type to make breakthroughs in battle. This was an extremely dreadful kind of enemy!

"You have six hours. Afterwards, you will receive my third move!"

As the Black Asura's voice fell, he vanished. He remained cold and callous throughout, not showing the least bit of leniency in his role as the examiner in this trial.

Lying on the ground, Lin Ming struggled to sit upright. With only six hours, he didn't dare to waste the tiniest bit of time.

Lin Ming entered the fused martial intent and his mind became completely empty. Behind him, the vague phantom of a Bodhi tree appeared once more.

During these six hours, he grasped the chance to recover his wounds. Lin Ming's ruined body continued to rapidly regenerate!

There was still a great deal of the power of the many heavenly materials that Lin Ming had swallowed up within his body. Now, he refined these energies to make up for his missing blood vitality.

When the time arrived, Lin Ming's eyes flashed open.

At this time, he was slightly excited. When he faced the Black Asura's Myriad Demon Karmic Wheel, recklessly facing it head on had been the right decision to make. This had allowed him to obtain many deeper comprehensions into the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws.

These sorts of comprehensions could not be matched by any rewards.

Chapter 1687 – Pass

After slowly adjusting his mental state, Lin Ming could feel the sea deep aura of the Black Asura swell forth around him. He looked up and saw the void being ripped apart. The indifferent Black Asura flew high in the skies, looking down at him from a commanding position.

Lin Ming calmed his thoughts.

“Are you ready?” The Black Asura asked.

“Come!”

Standing in place, Lin Ming was as tall and straight as a spear. His aura was sharp, like a blade that could pierce a hole through the heavens.

The Black Asura didn't speak anymore. He deeply gazed at Lin Ming. No matter what happened, this young man deserved another look.

The Black Asura reached out a hand. The originally empty void beside him was forcefully pulled open like slides, revealing a crack in space.

From this crack, the Black Asura grasped a long spear!

This spear was the weapon the Black Asura used and also the dragon spear carved upon the relief of the gate! In the last two moves, the Black Asura hadn't used a weapon, instead fighting his opponent unarmed. But this time, he resorted to bringing out his weapon!

At this moment, Lin Ming closed his eyes, his entire body gushing out with energy. His hair flapped in the wind and his strength started to rapidly rise.

A True Dragon soared through the heavens, its boundless aura grand and magnificent, its claws shredding space to pieces.

A Fire Phoenix carried with it an overwhelming sea of flames that blocked out the skies.

One dragon and one phoenix acted as guards. As the dragon and phoenix appeared, their radiance illuminated the world, alarming all.

At the same time a massive sea of lightning appeared in the skies, filled with vitality and sparkling with beams of electricity. Above this sea of lighting bloomed a giant flame lotus.

These two powers actually managed to come together in an incredible harmony, blending together as one. Each one shone with an unbelievable destructive force.

This was the thunder and fire heavenly tribulation that dwelled within Lin Ming's body!

In the great skies of this wasteland, more changes began to occur.

The overlapping layers of gray clouds were torn apart by countless mysterious beams of light. Swathes of stars appeared in the heavens, their starlight falling down like a descending galaxy, all of their strength flowing into Lin Ming.

Lin Ming bathed in this mysterious strength. His skin shimmered as more and more strength rose within his body.

One at a time, giant stars began to appear in the heavens. There were nine in total, all of them sparkling in space, floating up and down.

At the same time, nine spots on Lin Ming's body projected a blinding starlight, dazzling to the senses.

As if he himself were becoming a shining star.

The stars above him resonated with him like nine beating hearts.

Of the nine stars, two were particularly radiant, as bright as suns in the noon sky. They were the Purple Temple Dao Palace and the Heavenly Retribution Dao Palace.

The mystical strength emitted from the Purple Temple Dao Palace fused into Lin Ming's body. Large amounts of life potential and yang energy ignited within him, making his body feel hot and dry. Faint drops of life energy started to drip out from every pore on his body. They were as bright as fresh blood, like his body could not contain the overwhelming amount of boiling blood vitality within him.

The Heavenly Retribution Dao Palace galvanized the momentum of the world, quickening its flow. Heavenly fire, thunder, raging currents, netherworld energy, all sorts of powers of the Heavenly Dao howled in the void.

Lin Ming could truly feel the incoming threat, the threat of death. If he could not block this spear, the only path left to him was death!

At this time, the Black Asura attacked!

A spear thrust out. A strange vortex seemed to manifest itself, swallowing in all light within this great wasteland.

Lin Ming was suddenly shrouded in absolute darkness.

But what was darker than this darkness was the swift and fierce spear light that came shooting out at him.

This spear light was condensed within the aura of the Asura Great Dao! Lin Ming was familiar with this aura, but he also found it strange. Without a doubt, this was a domain of the Asura Heavenly Dao that Lin Ming couldn't comprehend!

Space groaned as it shattered like glass in massive tracts.

The spear seemed as if it could pierce through the universe. Lin Ming felt as if it were impossible to resist, as if this spear contained the power of Laws as deep and profound as the endless hells.

As this long spear targeted him, his entire body fell into fear, leaving him unable to move.

This was the weird response produced by the body when they encountered something incomparably terrifying.

Realizing the abnormality of his body, Lin Ming's heart filled with dread and awe. Without a doubt, the Black Asura's last attack would shake the heavens and sunder the earth.

No matter what, he had to withstand this spear strike!

"Open!" Lin Ming roared out. Behind him, an ancient green tree began to rapidly rise, sending out a lofty and towering momentum. The branches and leaves of the tree grew thick and lush, generating so fast that they seemed to become a forest.

Lin Ming grasped his long spear. As he gathered his spear potential, grandmist aura wildly appeared. In front of him, space began to shiver and twist. Grandmist space appeared, bringing with it a great strength that seemed as if it could imprison everything.

These strengths were so great that the ground beneath Lin Ming's feet began to crack and disintegrate, turning into the tiniest specks of dust that drifted into the air. Fissures split open the ground, spreading out in all directions.

The ground beneath Lin Ming gave way to space, as if an unfathomable abyss opened up beneath him. He grit his teeth, and with a loud shout all of this strength poured into the pitch black spear in his hands.

Bang!

The towering Heretical God Tree collided with the Black Asura's spear light and was immediately pierced through. However, a tiny amount of the spear's black energy also dissipated in the process.

Soon after, the phoenix and dragon crashed into the spear light. The powers of thunder and fire heavenly tribulations, the Purple Temple Dao Palace, the Heavenly Retribution Dao Palace, thick essence energy that filled the air, all of this crashed upwards like a

blood red meteor surrounded by a storm. Together with the misty grandmist space that carried with it the aura of the beginning, everything struck the pitch black long spear.

All of these strengths were enough to shock the world, and each one was more mysterious and powerful than the last!

The pitch black spear was annihilated at a speed visible to the naked eye. Mysterious Asura Heavenly Dao runes were torn off the spear light like motes of light and destroyed, creating tiny primitive black holes.

It was strange and captivating.

“Good!”

An unusual expression appeared on the Black Asura’s face. He faintly stared at Lin Ming. The black spear he shot out only had 10 foot or so left remaining. But the grandmist space that Lin Ming summoned began to crack and the grandmist energy within it was already extremely transparent.

“It’s still not enough!” Lin Ming clenched his teeth and cried out once more. A deep bass sound echoed out from within his body, as if his body itself had become a universe. The strange vibrato seemed to emit from the deepest point within him.

Above Lin Ming’s spear point, a pitch black energy vortex appeared. As this vortex appeared, it was like a stone had been dropped on a lake surface as intense spatial ripples appeared all around.

Whorl, whorl, whorl!

The surrounding space began disintegrating. A wild space storm appeared and swept out in all directions, sharper and deadlier than a hail of blades.

All of the strengths within this world, even the remnant strength of the Myriad Demon Karmic Wheel floating in the void, was sucked in by this vortex.

This was a technique from the Divine Seal Art created by Empyrean Divine Seal – Eternal Darkness!

A black hole was the hardest celestial body in the universe. With this black hole as a shield, he welcomed the incoming spear light!

With this move, Lin Ming's body was thoroughly exhausted. His blood vitality was in deep debt and only the Purple Temple Dao Palace within him was fanning the fires of life within his body, giving him enough energy to move.

Seeing this black hole sweep up into the skies, the Black Asura's complexion slightly changed.

The black spear was swept into this dark vortex. Within it, endless detonations of thunder and fire exploded.

Woosh, woosh, woosh!

The energy blown off the spear light came hurtling towards Lin Ming!

At this time, Lin Ming had already given his everything and it was impossible for him to resist the shockwaves of the spear light. His body was struck and steams of blood shot out like arrows from his body.

Lin Ming was like a fading candle in a storm. His body wavered, swinging about like a broken swing. Unable to suppress the injuries within his body, he suddenly vomited out a mouthful of blood.

But at this time, the endless explosions stopped. A small but sharp, black long spear rushed out from the black vortex, shooting towards Lin Ming.

In that moment, Lin Ming's pupils shrank. He was already a lamp without oil. It was impossible for him to block this strike.

Lin Ming's heart skipped a beat. He thought he would die in the next moment!

However, this feeling was only for a fleeting moment. As the black spear shot through Lin Ming's face, although it was still sharp and threatening, it actually passed straight through his body.

It turned out this was only the Black Asura's spear intent!

Although the spear intent was strong, the entire black spear's Asura Heavenly Dao strength was already worn down to nothing. To Lin Ming who understood the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws to an extent, this only scared him and couldn't threaten his life.

"Three moves passed..."

This was the last thought that flashed through Lin Ming's mind. In the next moment, his body fluttered down from the skies like a piece of cotton...

At this time, Lin Ming's true essence, astral essence, spirit essence, and blood vitality were completely exhausted. His consciousness dimmed as he fainted.

Chapter 1688A – Taunt

All of the heavenly materials Lin Ming ate had been slowly absorbed by him during his prolonged battle. Slowly, the essence of these materials subtly integrated into his body.

In truth, to the current Lin Ming whose mortal body, soul, and inner world were already extremely powerful, these heavenly materials weren't too advantageous.

To Lin Ming, the most precious things he obtained was the harvest he made in the Laws during those seemingly endless battles.

The opponents he faced in the Gate of Laws all had different combat methods, utilizing different Laws. After experiencing the might of these Laws, Lin Ming was able to broaden his horizons and obtain a far greater harvest.

In particular, during his final battle with the Black Asura, which gave Lin Ming an even deeper understanding of the Asura Heavenly Dao. However, all of this required time to digest.

Although Lin Ming seemed unconscious, the truth was that all sorts of fragments of the Great Dao Laws were submerged in his spiritual sea, slowly fusing into his very being and giving him new understandings.

As Lin Ming was continuing his trial, what was happening outside the Gate of Laws, on the third level of the final trial, was a completely different scene altogether.

The first group of people who successfully reached the third level were the weakest of the trial challengers. They were people who chose the easiest mortal step level difficulty, and within the mortal step level difficulty, one only needed to cross the aerial bridge to pass. There was no need to step onto the ancient continent and battle the numerous opponents that manifested from the Laws of

the 33 Heavens.

As such, they only needed 3-4 days to pass the Gate of Laws. Afterwards, they could obtain their rewards and enter the fourth level.

But this fourth level was far more perilous than the last two levels! There was a dramatic rise in difficulty!

On the fourth level, it could be said that every step was filled with murderous intent, every step was a life or death crisis!

After a good number of trial challengers perished, many others decided to give up continuing the final trial and return to the third level. After all, these people were all extraordinary individuals of their respective influences and they had a glorious future awaiting them. After they visited the fourth level they realized that with their strength, they were far more likely to die than to survive. For them, they definitely wouldn't go there just to die in vain.

Without a doubt, the final trial had many great lucky chances within. But if one didn't even have their life, what use were these lucky chances?

So, more and more people returned to the third level. The third level was a place without danger; it was only meant for trial challengers to receive their rewards and rest. These people planned to wait here until the end of the final trial arrived. At that time, they would all be collectively teleported back to the inner Asura Road, at some random place above the Asura Sea.

And at this time, the Gate of Laws began to slowly spin as another batch of trial challengers emerged.

The one leading the group was a high-spirited young man wearing a star crown – he was the Divine Void Third Crown Prince!

“Your Highness Crown Prince!”

As the Divine Void Third Crown Prince appeared, many people who came from influences closely related to Divine Void Divine

Kingdom came to greet him.

“Congratulations Crown Prince Your Highness on obtaining victory and perfectly passing the trial!”

Someone immediately sensed the mood and began to flatter him as much as he could. Just by looking at the Crown Prince’s energetic and happy expression, one could correctly guess that his trial had gone smoothly.

And in fact, he wasn’t wrong. The Divine Void Crown Prince had obtained the highest completion percent possible in the earth-step difficulty at 36%.

“Indeed, this level of accomplishment is truly worthy of Your Highness the Crown Prince! I think that Your Highness’s earth-step difficulty was far too low, perhaps the heaven-step difficulty would have been just right, haha!”

After confirming that the Divine Void Crown Prince had indeed perfectly passed, many people began to compliment him. However, the Divine Void Crown Prince’s smile didn’t last too long. Soon after, the Gate of Laws shook once more.

Bigflame, the direct disciple of Heavenly Union Divine Kingdom’s Divine Emperor had appeared.

Bigflame also had a wide smile on his rotund face. It was clear to everyone that he too had perfectly passed the trial. This left the Divine Void Crown Prince frowning a little. When he was undergoing the earth-step difficulty, the process hadn’t been too easy for him. He was originally hoping to roll over Bigflame with his score, but now it seemed they had both emerged even with each other.

For a time, the Third Crown Prince and Bigflame became the focus of the entire audience. The two of them could be said to be brimming with success. Although the earth-step difficulty was only the second level of difficulty, it wasn’t simple at all. Perfectly

passing was an extremely difficult task and even many proud children of heaven from the various great influences here had only completed a part of it.

For the two to perfectly pass, they would be praised once they returned to their respective True Divinity Holy Lands.

At this time, Suyu, Mo Brightmoon, and the others were all looking towards the blood red Asura level difficulty exit from the Gate of Laws. In such a festive atmosphere, the two of them were actually feeling worried and anxious.

Because of their profound trust in Lin Ming, even though he had chosen the Asura level difficulty that no one had passed in billions of years, they still anticipated a miracle to occur.

Lin Ming had been far too hasty in choosing the Asura level difficulty. Before others had enough time to fully explain to him the situation, the Gate of Laws had opened and sucked him in.

They didn't think Lin Ming could complete much of the Asura level difficulty. As long as he passed through alive, they would already be thanking the heavens and earth.

"What is it? Junior-apprentice sister Suyu, do you have any troubles on your mind?"

A light voice echoed out, causing Suyu to frown. She turned to see a robed man walking towards her with a smile on his face. This person was Duke Fullmoon!

Duke Fullmoon had chosen the earth-step difficulty. Although he didn't perfectly complete it, his performance had been adequate and he had obtained a great many things from the battles. From this alone, Duke Fullmoon was more than satisfied.

Although the Third Crown prince and Bigflame were the two who blossomed in splendor within the Gate of Laws trial, Duke Fullmoon was still in an extremely good mood. At this time, he held onto a folding fan, slowly fanning himself with an imposing

expression on his face.

He certainly knew what Suyu was worrying about. The reason he deliberately brought it up was to bring Suyu down a notch.

He remembered that at the start of the Divine Rune City Auction, when he met Suyu at the entrance, Suyu had treated him coldly because of Lin Ming's presence.

Duke Fullmoon had kept this memory to heart.

"Its nothing."

Suyu's voice was cold and desolate, as if she didn't care about Duke Fullmoon's presence at all.

Duke Fullmoon thought little of it. He chuckled and said, "What, are you still thinking that Lin Ming will come out alive? It seems that junior-apprentice sister Suyu really has a deep affection towards this Lin Ming. But what a pity... heroes in their youth simply do not know their own weight. To choose the Asura difficulty so recklessly just to win the attention of others, and yet the result is that no one cares about him. All his grandstanding has come to nothing..."

Duke Fullmoon smiled, his eyes sweeping over everyone else.

Nearly everyone was gathered around the Divine Void Third Crown Prince and Bigflame. Indeed, no one cared about Lin Ming.

In this final trial, Lin Ming wasn't able to arouse much interest at all. After all, these people weren't familiar with him and only knew he was the creator of the 'Lin' logo divine runic symbols.

When Lin Ming chose the Asura level difficulty, the others were startled, but that was all. After a moment, they realized Lin Ming was just putting on an act and he likely had some mental problems. Soon, everyone put this matter at the back of their minds. Now, they were all busy trying to be on good terms with the Third Crown Prince and Bigflame. The Third Crown Prince and Bigflame both came from True Divinity level influences and their talent was

also extremely good. If those here could be on good terms with them, this relationship might be of help to them in the future.

As the Third Crown Prince and Bigflame were surrounded by a crowd of people, they slowly floated upwards. They were about to choose their own immortal palace reward.

But at this time, the Gate of Laws violently shook once more.

A blue-clothed woman flew out from the Gate of Laws!

Her clothes floated behind her and her entire body shined with pale blue Law runes. She was like an immortal fairy exiled from the highest nine heavens.

This person was Soul Empress Sheng Mei!

She had perfectly passed the heaven-step smelting trial difficulty. Not just that, but her clothes were unstained and her appearance was otherworldly. It was clear she still had a great deal of strength remaining!

Everyone was stunned. They soon looked up at her.

“Sheng Mei! She came from the heaven-step difficulty!”

“Too fierce! Look at her unbothered appearance, it seems she has perfectly completed it!”

Some people cried out in alarm. But Sheng Mei didn't bother with these people. Instead, as soon as she appeared, she flew directly towards an immortal palace.

The immortal palace she chose was as large as a mountain. The one she chose was a second-rank immortal palace!

Woosh!

Soul Empress Sheng Mei flew into the immortal palace without stopping at all. The entire process was like a comet passing through the skies, free and easy, filled with beauty.

“She is truly worthy of being called Soul Empress Sheng Mei.

Even after completing the heaven-step difficulty she is still so calm. We are far inferior to the likes of her,” the Divine Void Crown Prince whispered, his face still as happy and joyful as a spring breeze. He didn’t envy Sheng Mei’s results at all, because he and Sheng Mei never stood on the same plane to begin with. So, there was no reason to compare himself with her.

She was someone who stood at the peak of the entire soul race. Within every spirital of the 33 Heavens, she was the highest status woman there was. She was a character that could stand on par with Soul Emperor Divine Void, so there was no meaning in competing with her.

“Haha, Crown Prince is too modest. Soul Empress Sheng Mei is a divine being, but if the Crown Prince is compared to Soul Empress Sheng Mei, the differences aren’t too great! Crown Prince can still show disdain for all other heroes!”

Many people began to flatter once more. They couldn’t match up to Sheng Mei, but they could establish relations with the Divine Void Crown Prince. So, when Sheng Mei appeared, she didn’t steal the limelight of the Divine Void Crown Prince.

As many people were speaking, the Gate of Laws shook once more.

Chapter 1688B – The Shadow In the Vortex

Everyone was stunned and looked towards the Gate of Laws. They saw that it was the exit of the heaven-step difficulty that was shaking.

“Mm? Someone else came out?”

Before everyone had time to respond, a black-clothed young girl came hurtling out!

This young girl had a simple and beautiful appearance. Her body was slender and her complexion was only slightly pale. There was a bit of blood that stained her clothes.

It was clear it hadn't been easy for her to pass the Gate of Laws!

This young girl that looked to be 17-18 years old was actually Xiao Moxian!

“Eh... she also passed?”

Many people were surprised. They originally believed that if Xiao Moxian were to enter the heaven-step difficulty, the chances were she would have more misfortune than good luck. But they never imagined she would successfully pass the trial.

“It isn't strange. If I enter the heaven-step difficulty I can also pass, but my completion percent would be far too low. The benefits simply aren't worth the cost,” the Divine Void Crown Prince suddenly spoke at this time.

Although it sounded like he was boasting, he was actually correct. If he could perfectly complete the earth-step difficulty, that meant that even though he could pass the heaven-step difficulty, he would at most obtain a 40-50% completion rate. But with this completion rate, the rewards wouldn't be as good as perfectly completing the earth-step difficult.

“That woman was with Lin Ming, right?”

“Yes, she’s likely Lin Ming’s woman. I really underestimated her. Even so, look at her... It seems she has reached her limits. She probably barely passed.”

“Haha, that might not be so.” The Divine Void Crown Prince shook his head. As he looked at Xiao Moxian, there was a hint of appreciation in her eyes. “It’s already impressive for her to pass the heaven-step difficulty. Now, I’m curious as to what her completion percent is. 20%? 30%? Or perhaps she just barely managed to pass?”

“Little sister Xian’er, are you okay!?”

Seeing Xiao Moxian’s bloodstained clothes, Mo Brightmoon felt her heart tighten. When Xiao Moxian had chosen the heaven-step difficulty, she had indeed felt nervous. But because she had experienced Xiao Moxian’s strength, she knew that even though Xiao Moxian couldn’t compare to Sheng Mei, she should still be able to survive the Gate of Laws without a problem.

Now, she saw Xiao Moxian come out. Although it seemed Xiao Moxian had approached her limits, at least she was safe and well. Mo Brightmoon could finally relax.

“I’m good.” Xiao Moxian gripped her fists. Although her tumbling blood vitality was in an extremely poor state, she still had an excited expression on her face.

“Little sister Xian’er, you must make haste and adjust your condition.”

Suya quickly took out a wound recovery pill. She and Mo Brightmoon didn’t ask about Xiao Moxian’s completion percent. This was not the right time to ask about such matters. Xiao Moxian’s wounds came first, and they were also still worried about Lin Ming.

“Really, women are no inferior to men. I must say I admire her...”

Duke Fullmoon rubbed his chin, watching Xiao Moxian with a brilliant light in his eyes.

This woman's talent was far too amazing. Even though she barely passed, she still surpassed over 95% of those present!

Moreover, she had outstanding looks. This caused Duke Fullmoon to feel not so good in his heart. How had such a good piece of cabbage been grabbed up by a pig? That boy Lin Ming was far too blessed when it came to women!

Luckily, Lin Ming was far too stupid and entered the Asura level difficulty like the fool he was. Chances were, he had already died by now. If this was true, this woman was now alone!

Thinking of this, Duke Fullmoon began to develop tempting thoughts. He thought of taking Xiao Moxian under his wings. Since he was rising to fame, he needed to build up his own power and forces. If he could capture Xiao Moxian's body and mind, she would undoubtedly be an excellent dual cultivation partner. Not only could he drink deep in his lust for her, but it would also be a great help for himself.

"This miss is called Xian'er, right? What amazing abilities you have! It seems we have had some misunderstandings before, but to meet today in the final trial could be called a stroke of luck. As they say, you won't know someone unless you fight them. No matter what problems we've had in the past with each other, allow me take the initiative to apologize for anything I might have done wrong. How about we clean away any past animosities we might have?"

Xiao Moxian was already sitting down, about to enter meditation to restore her wounds. After she received Suyu's pill and was about to swallow it down, she heard this disgusting and repugnant voice sound out in her ears. As she looked up, she saw Duke Fullmoon swinging his fan, looking down at her with a proud and happy expression.

It was like Xiao Moxian had just finished a wonderful meal, and just as she was basking in the enjoyment of it, she discovered a giant fly on her plate. Not only did any happy feelings she had had disappear, but she was even a little enraged.

“You want to apologize? Isn’t your skin too thick? Who do you think you are? I don’t even remember who you are,” Xiao Moxian icily said, not bothering with Duke Fullmoon.

“Haha, Miss Xian’er is too playful. Don’t we martial artists have photographic memories? How could Miss Xian’er possibly not remember me?” Duke Fullmoon said, putting on his most noble and elegant demeanor. Since he had thoughts of taking in this woman, he naturally had to endure her temper a little.

But who knew that Xiao Moxian wouldn’t fall for his act? She ignored him, treating him as if he was nothing more than empty air.

Xiao Moxian swallowed the pill and started to meditate.

Duke Fullmoon frowned. Even he had limited patience. In front of so many people, Xiao Moxian had done the same as slapping him across the face. He naturally didn’t feel good about this.

He spoke, his voice much icier, “Smart birds and beasts know where to make their home, and wise men understand their circumstances. You aren’t counting on your lover leaving the Gate of Laws, right? Hehe! If he kept a little lower profile, with his little cheap tricks in the divine runic arts he might have caused some small influences to have some interest in him. But what a pity...”

Duke Fullmoon coldly sneered.

But this sneer actually caused a deep killing intent to flash in Xiao Moxian’s eyes. She was originally a daughter of the demon and monster race, and towards her enemies, she would feel no pity, nor would she show mercy. In particular, this Duke Fullmoon had actually touched upon her reverse scale of rage, cursing Lin Ming

to die!

It had to be known that even though Xiao Moxian had 120% confidence in Lin Ming, this final trial was still established by the Asura Road Master. The difficulty Lin Ming chose was the hardest one there was, so how could it be easy to pass?

Xiao Moxian feared Lin Ming would try to chase perfection and choose to challenge some test that surpassed his limits, finally meeting danger. As Xiao Moxian heard Duke Fullmoon speak such words, a deep and profound killing intent began to swell up within her!

She subconsciously traced her spatial ring. But this action caused Suyu's heart to skip a beat. Suyu quickly stopped Xiao Moxian by saying, "Little sister Xian'er, don't be impulsive. There are many people here, you absolutely cannot start a fight!"

Duke Fullmoon's complexion had completely darkened. He finally became aware that this woman belonged to Lin Ming until her death and would never submit to anyone else. If so, he was done being kind to her.

"You want to kill me? How interesting! It seems you would rather do things the hard way! I urge you to consider your circumstances some more. With your strength and your background, do you have the capital to contend with me? If that little beast Lin Ming were still alive and the Divine Runic Masters Guild was here to support you, I might fear you a little. But now, who else do you have?"

As Duke Fullmoon spoke, the Gate of Laws trembled once more.

Duke Fullmoon was startled. He turned to look. At this strange time, just who would come out? As Duke Fullmoon saw what was happening, surprise flitted across his face. This time, it was the exit to the Asura level difficulty that was shaking!

For a time, the noisy crowd calmed down. Even the Crown Prince

and Bigflame who were ready to soar towards their immortal palace rewards stopped, surprised that there was something occurring at the exit to the Asura level difficulty.

The deep red Gate of Laws was the color of blood. It's shaking was abnormal. Not only did violent surges of energy start spinning around, but even the power of Laws nearby stirred up.

The feeling it gave off was as if there was a terrifying storm developing within the Gate of Laws!

"There's a change in the Asura level gate, or could it be..."

The Divine Void Crown Prince felt his heart turn cold. This sort of feeling was as if there was a problem itself with the Asura level gate! As if some extraordinary accident was about to occur!

As for the words yet to be spoken, he didn't finish them. He thought it might be Lin Ming coming out, but he soon overruled these thoughts.

As the Divine Void Crown Prince's voice fell, all of the other martial artists immediately raised their guards. In the final trial, anything was possible. If there was a problem with the Asura level gate, it could be a multitude of things. For instance, there could be a terrifying flow of energy rushing out, or it could even be some of the powerful enemies used to test trial challengers! Nothing would be strange!

In this sort of situation, no one was willing to bet their lives on chance. In particular, the weaker young elites began to retreat.

And at this time, with a loud bang, an explosion that shook the heavens and earth blew out. The Asura level gate violently detonated!

A savage flux of energy swept out. All of the martial artists outside were surprised. They quickly raised shields of true essence or astral essence to protect themselves, but many of them were still sent flying backwards.

There were some of them that already planned to turn tail and run. Even the Divine Void Crown Prince and the others were completely vigilant of their surroundings.

As for that violent flux of energy, it didn't last for long. It soon gathered back together, converging at the Asura level gate, forming a blood red vortex!

Everyone was bewildered. As they looked towards that blood red vortex, they immediately saw a silhouette appear. This person had disheveled hair and ruined clothes, slowly stepping out and dragging a spear behind him. Every step this person took seemed to resonate with the heartbeats of all martial artists outside!

The flexible armor covering his body had been shattered to pieces and his boots were nothing but strips of barely intact cloth. It was hard to imagine what sort of ruinous battle he had just been in. But in contrast to his harried appearance, his eyes flashed like bolts of lightning in the night sky. Even the blood red light of the Asura level gate was unable to cover up the blinding light of his spirit!

His eyes shook everyone present, as if they were all seen through by him.

The moment this person's shadow appeared, Duke Fullmoon froze like statue. For a long time, the only movement was his wildly twitching throat. He gulped again and again, and then finally said with a trembling voice, "That person... that man... that is Lin Ming!?!?"

"Lin Ming! The Divine Runic Masters Guild's Lin Ming!"

Many people cried out together with Duke Fullmoon.

Lin Ming had come out! He had come out from the Asura level difficulty Gate of Laws!?

This was... unbelievable!

In this moment, as Suyu saw Lin Ming, her eyes became wet. Her understanding of Lin Ming was far worse than Xiao Moxian's. She

originally thought Lin Ming's chances of survival were slim, with nine chances of death and one chance of life. But now that she saw Lin Ming appear, she was ecstatic!

Lin Ming's completion percent was unimportant. As long as he could emerge alive, that was all that mattered.

"Big Brother Lin, you really passed!"

Xiao Moxian happily shouted. She ran towards Lin Ming and flew into his arms like a gust of wind.

According to what she knew of Lin Ming, since Lin Ming was able to come out, he would inevitably have obtained a massive harvest from the Asura level difficulty. Lin Ming's character was that of one who didn't concede easily. No matter what he tried to do, as long as he did it he would put his all into it!

"Big Brother Lin..." At this time, Xiao Moxian sniffed. Even though she was confident in Lin Ming, emotions were irrational. She feared that Lin Ming might have experienced some accident. Only upon feeling Lin Ming's warm and solid chest did she feel relieved.

"I'm fine." Lin Ming gently rubbed Xiao Moxian's head. He let out a long sigh. This trial hadn't been easy at all. Facing the Black Asura's last attack, he had nearly lost his life then and there.

Chapter 1689 – Flying Towards the Immortal Palace

Suya naturally couldn't show such open emotions like Xiao Moxian. With Lin Ming's safe return, she tried to remain as calm and serene on the outside as she could.

“Sir Lin, thank the heavens and earth you managed to come out safely.”

Mo Brightmoon also came forwards. She asked with concern, “Lin Ming, are you wounded?”

Looking at Lin Ming's appearance, it was hard to imagine what sort of brutal battle he had just undergone. That sort of scene must have been shocking.

Behind Mo Brightmoon, Fanny Fafa and Thousand Slaughter also rushed up to congratulate Lin Ming.

Thousand Slaughter heavily patted Lin Ming's shoulder, not saying anything. Although they had only met some time ago, he and Lin Ming had fought side-by-side and there was some camaraderie between them.

Lin Ming's teammates and friends, all of them celebrated his arrival. As for the other martial artists, they were still stewing in their shock, unable to regain their composure.

The storm in the Asura level gate just now was unusually fierce and wild, leaving all of them panic-stricken. They never imagined the real reason for this storm was that Lin Ming had completed the Asura level Gate of Laws trial.

Asura level difficulty. It had already been unknown billions of years since anyone had chosen this path. No one knew just what sort of scene would occur after passing it.

“How can this be... he's clearly a divine runic master, and

learning the divine runic arts requires a massive amount of time. In particular, to reach Lin Ming's level in the divine runic arts required an incredibly long time. I heard he has a skeletal age of a hundred years and his divine runic arts have reached unbelievable heights, so how can his individual strength be so abnormal? Can he really be some old monster in disguise?"

"Old monster? There's no need to lie to us! There's no meaning in doing so anyways. Don't forget, the higher your skeletal age in this trial, the more difficult the trials will be that you face. If you think Lin Ming is really an old master, could he pass the Asura level trial?"

It was unknown who said this, but the hearts of everyone suddenly went cold!

That's right! If there was a martial artist over 10,000 years of age that stepped upon the ancient continent and faced the manifestations of Laws here, the opponents they would face might be at the Empyrean level!

To fight Empyrean after Empyrean, just who could withstand that?

The Gate of Laws smelting trial was the same as confirming Lin Ming's age. So, everyone that suspected Lin Ming's talent wasn't able to say a single thing to him.

"This brat!" Duke Fullmoon's lips twitched, his heart burning with anger. "He just barely managed to pass that trial in such a miserable condition. He injured himself in order to crawl into the limelight and show off, and yet to do so he gave up his chance of perfectly passing! What's there to be proud of!?"

Duke Fullmoon's jealousy towards Lin Ming had already reached the pinnacle. He was well aware that no matter what Lin Ming's completion percentage was, his talent had surpassed his own by a great amount.

Duke Fullmoon's words were not approved by anyone else. In the world of martial artists, those with strength had status, those with strength had respect!

Some people sighed beside Duke Fullmoon. "Even if his completion percentage is zero, that is also too freaking amazing. I fear even the Divine Void Third Crown Prince or Bigflame wouldn't have the courage to say they could enter the Asura level difficulty and come out alive, even with zero completion percentage. Moreover, Lin Ming is a divine runic master, so combat is for him something he only does on the side..."

Many people repeatedly mentioned Lin Ming's attainments as a divine runic master. But they couldn't help but do this; his skills in the divine runic arts were too well known.

As these words fell into Duke Fullmoon's ears, he felt them extremely grating to hear. However, there were some people that agreed with Duke Fullmoon; for instance, the Divine Void Third Crown Prince and Bigflame.

They were originally the leading heroes of this final trial. And because they had perfectly completed the earth-step Gate of Laws, there were many people that gathered around them to flatter them. They had been in high spirits this entire time, but now Lin Ming's appearance had snatched away their limelight and also struck them in the face.

Now it seemed that their self-satisfied accomplishments, everything that they were so excited and ecstatic over, was the same as the plays of a clown.

They could lose to Soul Empress Sheng Mei; that was the natural state of affairs. But they would not allow themselves to lose to a junior like Lin Ming.

"If you can't obtain any completion percentage, it's useless anyways! The rewards of the final trial are decided by the completion percentage you have at the end. If your completion

percentage is low, what meaning is there in even attempting it?" The Third Crown Prince coldly snorted.

Bigflame also lowered his voice as he said, "I also want to know just how many completion percentage points this grandstanding fellow has."

There were no eternal friends or enemies, only eternal benefits.

Bigflame and the Third Crown Prince originally hated the sight of each other, but that was because they were both struggling to take the spotlight in this final trial and become the top person here. That would be the greatest honor for them and also the greatest honor for their sect. Their struggles here were the same as their struggles for their own future.

But now, their limelight had been stolen by Lin Ming, so what use was it to continue struggling against each other?

As such, Lin Ming had now become their common unifying enemy. The two of them immediately banded together to present a unified front.

At this time, Lin Ming was talking with Suyu, Mo Brightmoon, and the others. He just learned from Suyu what the reward for the Gate of Laws was. As he looked up, he could see the countless immortal palaces that filled the skies!

These immortal palaces filled the heavens like stars. There were large ones and small ones, all of them in varied styles and sizes.

"Lin Ming, if you wish to enter the immortal palaces you will need a sufficient completion percentage."

"Even the lowest level one, the immortal palaces the size of a thatched hut, require at least a 30% completion. But the imperial palace sized immortal palaces, they require 35%!"

"As for the mountain-sized immortal palaces that Sheng Mei entered, they require a 40% completion!"

As Suyu spoke, she looked at Lin Ming with some worry in her eyes. She was afraid Lin Ming wouldn't have enough completion percentage to enter the imperial palace sized immortal palaces. If this were true, Lin Ming would truly have suffered a loss; otherwise, if he were to enter the heaven-step difficulty with his strength, he might have been able to compare with Sheng Mei!

“Oh? So there were such rules...”

Lin Ming also found it strange. When he passed through the Gate of Laws, the Black Asura had said that as long as he could receive three moves, he would be given a reward, and that this reward would be one of the most precious rewards in the Asura Road's final trial!

But after passing the trial, he had yet to see anything. Right now, he learned that these rewards were all held within the immortal palaces!

As Lin Ming recalled how the Black Asura had described the reward as 'one of the most precious', Lin Ming felt his blood rush to his head. He impatiently wanted to know just what the reward was.

His eyes soon locked onto the largest immortal palace in the sky, the one the size of a planet. That immortal palace had the most terrifying aura. It was also expected that the precious reward the Black Asura described would be in that immortal palace!

When Suyu saw Lin Ming was looking at the planet-sized immortal palace, she sighed and said, “That planet sized immortal palace is the only one of its kind within the entire third level. Even if you pass through the heaven-step difficulty you still wouldn't have enough completion percentage to enter. I fear only through perfectly passing the Asura level trial would one be allowed to enter. My estimation is that in the last several billion years, there has never been anyone that has entered. As for what rewards are inside, no one knows.”

In Suya's heart, that immortal palace was no different from a bedtime story. It was only meant to be looked at, not obtained.

“No one has gone in for billions of years?”

Lin Ming's eyebrows arched up. This wasn't too surprising. All he had to do was recall how abnormally difficult the Gate of Laws had been for him to realize this. He already had an extremely high level of talent and also understood the Asura Heavenly Dao, which gave him a massive advantage. But even so, he had nearly lost his life in order to pass.

“That's right. These immortal places are not just the area to take your reward, but also the entrance to the fourth level. If your completion percentage isn't enough, you can't even enter the fourth floor.”

Suya gave a detailed explanation. At this time, Lin Ming grasped Xiao Moxian's hand and said, “Come, let's go take our rewards, and then go to the fourth level!”

As Lin Ming spoke, he turned to Mo Brightmoon and the others and said, “Everyone, let's go together.”

“Great!”

Mo Brightmoon, Thousand Slaughter, Fanny Fafa, and Suya all nodded and flew upwards.

Lin Ming flew in the front. His speed wasn't quick but his movements seemed weightless. Soon, he flew up thousands of feet. The immortal palaces were coming closer and closer.

At this time, Lin Ming discovered something strange.

Besides his group of people, no one else had moved.

The rewards were in the air but no one went to take them. Rather, they sat beside ancient trees, laid down on the ground, floated in air, or were doing nothing at all. They weren't even recuperating or discussing potential tactics for the fourth level.

Rather, they were all looking at Lin Ming.

On the faces of these people were a multitude of emotions. There was curiosity, playfulness, admiration, ridicule, and more. But without a doubt, every single one of them was waiting for Lin Ming to make his choice!

Lin Ming immediately understood what was happening. They all wanted to see just what his completion percentage was.

And they couldn't be blamed for wanting to know. Lin Ming was the only one in the last billions of years to have chosen the Asura level difficulty, and the only one they had ever heard of surviving. They all wanted to know just what his completion percentage was.

The Divine Void Third Crown Prince traced his chin, a happy and thoughtful expression on his face.

The Asura level difficulty was something even Soul Empress Sheng Mei could only complete a portion of. And if one completed only a portion, they could only choose the second rate mountain sized immortal palaces or the third rate imperial palace sized immortal palaces.

If Lin Ming barely managed to pass and his completion percentage was too low, perhaps he might only be able to choose the hut sized immortal palace.

If Lin Ming rumbled out from the Asura level gate, passing through endless slaughter and facing epic fights that shook the heavens to do so, and even nearly losing his life in the process, if he were to choose the hut-sized immortal palace in the end then that would be far too great a joke!

As long as he could mock Lin Ming, he could naturally restore the shame he felt.

At that time, he would enter his imperial palace sized immortal palace and slap Lin Ming across the face!

Bigflame was also thinking the same thing as the Third Crown

Prince. As for Duke Fullmoon, there was no need to mention him. No one wanted more than him to see Lin Ming smash his head into a barrier.

Lin Ming's movements slowed. He frowned. He hadn't expected such a scene to occur. If he didn't choose his immortal palace, everyone would just be waiting for him.

Lin Ming originally didn't want his choice to be seen by others, but now it seemed unavoidable. Moreover, it seemed many martial artists remaining in the third level were considerable weaker. For instance, the first batch of martial artists that passed through the Gate of Laws had chosen their rewards before entering the fourth level. But because they couldn't withstand the dangers of the fourth level, they were forced back to the third level where they had to wait until the final trial ended and were teleported out. In any event, it was impossible for Lin Ming to wait for them.

Chapter 1690 – Entering the Planet Sized Immortal Palace

“Big Brother Lin, what are you worrying about?” Xiao Moxian softly asked as she saw Lin Ming’s frown.

Lin Ming hesitated for a moment, but then said, “I just don’t want my choice to be seen by others in order to prevent the news from passing out. There might be those with evil intentions coveting my reward. Even if the reward cannot be transferred to others, there might still be those who will harm me in order to confirm what occurred!”

The final trial created by the Asura Road Master was far too important. There would likely be some old monster that would ignore all convention and shame to attack him. If so, even the Divine Runic Masters Guild couldn’t shelter him. If the treasures left behind by the Asura Road Master were compared to improved divine runic symbols, they were simply of two completely different categories!

“This brat, isn’t he going?”

“Hehe, he probably found out the immortal palaces require a completion percentage, so now he’s scared.”

The Divine Void Crown Prince and Duke Fullmoon were both waiting to see Lin Ming make a joke of himself. Now that they saw Lin Ming suddenly pause midair, they thought he was likely panic-stricken after discovering the requirements for entering into the different immortal palaces.

With so many people watching him make his choice, Lin Ming was probably fearful he would embarrass himself.

“How interesting. I want to take a good look and see just what you will do!” Duke Fullmoon smugly said, pleased with himself. Who cared how much talent Lin Ming had? For him to produce

such laughable results in the end, that was truly a joke!

Thousand Slaughter and Fanny Fafa also stopped in surprise as they saw Lin Ming come to a pause.

“Brother Lin, what’s the problem?”

“Nothing...”

Lin Ming idled for a moment, pondering his choice. News about this event would only be spread out once the final trial ended. Moreover, it seemed that the trial challengers would be teleported to random places above the Asura Sea. In the vast Asura Sea, he would only teleport into the midst of a group of old monsters if he had extremely poor luck.

Moreover, even if he were teleported into the midst of some old monsters, they still wouldn’t immediately know what rewards Lin Ming had obtained from the final trial. In fact, they might not even know who he was.

At that time, it wouldn’t be too difficult for Lin Ming to leave, and he also had the Asura Command. As long as he had a little time, he could activate the Asura Command and return to the outer Asura Road!

The outer Asura Road was far safer. From there, Lin Ming could leave the Asura Road and return to the Divine Realm. When he did, his nearly 60 year journey in the Asura Road would come to a conclusion!

Thinking of this, Lin Ming didn’t bother with the potential consequences any longer. Even if those old fellows of the Asura Road had designs on him, what could they do?

Lin Ming smiled. He started to move forwards again, much faster than before, immediately zipping out from the group!

In the final trial’s third level, the different sizes of immortal palaces were at different heights.

The highest number, the thatched hut sized immortal palace, hung at a generally lower altitude. As for the larger immortal palaces, the bigger they were the higher they floated.

Lin Ming was extremely quick. In the blink of an eye, he passed through the innumerable smaller immortal palaces and towards the third ranked ones!

“Is he going to enter the third ranked immortal palaces?”

The Divine Void Crown Prince and Bigflame frowned. In order to enter the third ranked immortal palace, that required that one achieved a considerably higher completion percent in the earth-step Gate of Laws difficulty. Of the many people still remaining on the third level, over 90% of them failed to enter the third ranked immortal palaces; they could only choose the lowest, fourth ranked immortal palaces.

If Lin Ming chose the third ranked immortal palaces, that would be the same result as the both of them. If so, they wouldn't have any superiority to him.

Moreover, the key point was that Lin Ming had chosen the most difficult Asura level Gate of Laws, and had even achieved a high enough completion percentage within to enter the third ranked immortal palaces. That's was simply far too amazing a result!

As the Divine Void Crown Prince and Bigflame were slowly falling into a melancholic depression, Lin Ming rapidly flew over the third ranked immortal palaces and towards the second ranked immortal palaces!

“What!?”

“Could he be choosing the second ranked immortal palaces? That is what the Soul Empress chose!”

After perfectly passing the heaven-step difficulty, the Soul Empress had chosen a second ranked immortal palace!

If Lin Ming were to accomplish the same after entering the Asura

level difficulty, wouldn't that mean his talent was higher than the Soul Empress'?

Many people felt this was far too unbelievable!

However, before they had time to respond, something even more shocking occurred. Lin Ming actually passed by the second ranked immortal palaces and turned towards the highest ranked immortal palace – the only one of its kind within the third level, the legendary planet sized immortal palace!

“What is he doing?”

Let alone the Divine Void Crown Prince, Bigflame, Duke Fullmoon, and their lackeys, even Suyu and Mo Brightmoon were left staring with eyes wide open. They stared blankly on as Lin Ming flew towards that incomparably vast immortal palace, the one that shined brightly like a sun!

In the legends, there hadn't been anyone in the last several billions of years who had managed to step into that immortal palace. Could that palace be Lin Ming's goal!?

But Suyu had already clearly explained to Lin Ming just how difficult it was to enter the largest immortal palace!

Everyone revealed incredulous expressions. Only Xiao Moxian smiled with a hint of pride.

Lin Ming's speed was like lightning. In the blink of an eye, he had already rushed within close distance of the immortal palace and was still hurtling towards it without pause!

“He's insane!”

“The toad wants to eat swan meat. Just because he lived through the Asura level difficulty he thinks he can enter the first class immortal palace!?”

“Haha, wait for him to hit the wall!”

When Lin Ming flew towards the third ranked immortal palaces,

Bigflame and the Divine Void Crown Prince already had ugly complexions. But when Lin Ming flew towards the first ranked immortal palace, their mocking expressions returned once again.

This was a place where not even Soul Empress Sheng Mei could hope to enter. In order to enter, one had to perfectly complete the Asura level difficulty! That was an impossible task.

With Lin Ming's current speed, he would hit the immortal palace's barrier at full speed. To see such a sight was, simply too wonderful!

Everyone waited for Lin Ming to be brutally beaten by his own hubris.

The brief distance was covered in the blink of an eye. Lin Ming's form was covered in the endless divine light of the planet sized immortal palace.

The array formation barrier of the immortal palace was right in front of him!

Completion requirement – 45%!

Lin Ming didn't hesitate. He hurtled forwards at breakneck pace, seeming as if he didn't see this protective barrier at all.

Hu!

Like a swallow flying through a plume of smoke, Lin Ming's form instantly passed through the shield and submerged in that radiant light, completely vanishing from sight. He had entered the immortal palace!

In that moment, the smiles of Bigflame, the Divine Void Crown Prince, and Fullmoon all froze over!

Everyone else watching was also left completely dumbfounded!

Lin Ming, he... did he really just enter!?

"I... am I seeing things...?"

The tubby Bigflame gulped, his lips twitching as he stared straight up into the air.

Not only had Lin Ming survived the Asura level Gate of Laws, but he also entered the planet sized immortal palace. Just what sort of joke was this?

Did this mean that Lin Ming had perfectly completed the Asura level Gate of Laws? How could that even be possible?

All of the martial artists in the third level were dumbfounded. For a long time, none of them could speak. But the facts were placed right in front of them. The barrier of the immortal palace could not lie!

Like this, they had all confusedly borne witness to a miracle that happened for the first time in billions of years!

“I don’t believe this... the planet sized immortal palace’s barrier...” Duke Fullmoon’s voice trembled. He wanted to say that there was some problem with the barrier of the immortal palace but he couldn’t say the words in the end. The array formations the Asura Road Master laid down had continued without problem for billions upon billions of years. Through the vast river of time, countless talents had entered this level, as many geniuses as there were sand grains in the desert, but there had never been a case where there were problems with the barriers of these immortal palaces!

There was only a single explanation and that was that Lin Ming had indeed perfectly passed the Asura level difficulty. His talent surpassed even that of the Soul Empress!

As for the Soul Empress, she was a character who could stand side-by-side with Soul Emperor Divine Void. If Lin Ming and the Soul Empress were to be compared now, besides the difference in their cultivation and overall strength, he surpassed her in many other aspects!

This conclusion was far too shocking. Everyone felt it was hard to accept this.

And at this time, Xiao Moxian also moved. She flew straight towards the second ranked immortal palaces!

Xiao Moxian had followed after Soul Empress Sheng Mei and chose the heaven step difficulty. However, Soul Empress Sheng Mei had passed the trial far more calmly than Xiao Moxian had. But the reason for this was because Xiao Moxian wasn't familiar with the situation in the trial like Sheng Mei was, which inevitably caused her to use up a great deal more strength, even injuring her origin energy a little. Even so, Xiao Moxian had still perfectly passed the heaven step difficulty and obtained a high completion percentage!

So, it was natural for Xiao Moxian to choose the second ranked immortal palaces.

Like an agile bird, light and quick, she flew into a second ranked immortal palace without anything hindering her!

Seeing Lin Ming fly into the first ranked immortal palace and then Xiao Moxian fly into a second ranked immortal palace, everyone was left petrified. Or rather, it could be said they were numbed of all feelings!

Chapter 1691 – The Immortal Palace

The planet-sized immortal palace was vast and ethereal. This was a mysterious ancient land no one had opened for billions of years. As Lin Ming stepped past the gates of this immortal palace, he immediately felt as though he had stepped into an alternate world; the atmosphere here was extremely different from that of the Asura Road.

All sorts of strange powers flowed around Lin Ming, rushing about like a tide!

Lin Ming knew these powers were Laws.

In the Gate of Laws, Lin Ming had fought off opponents that represented the Laws of the 33 Heavens. Now he had gained a considerable understanding towards the Laws of the 33 Heavens. He could faintly feel that within the confines of this immortal palace, there was also the strength of the 33 Heavens' Laws!

In the past, the Asura Road Master had cultivated the Laws of the 33 Heavens and established his own Asura Heavenly Dao. This immortal palace held the Laws of the 33 Heavens.

Lin Ming took a deep breath and stepped forwards. The tall and grand winding corridors were all made of some unknown divine stone. This sort of divine stone had been here for billions of years, experiencing the weathering of the vast river of time, yet it still remained bright and spotless.

Like this, Lin Ming arrived at the end of the corridor. He could see a palatial door, carved with gold and jade.

When Lin Ming stepped in front of this door, the door actually started to swing open!

For some time, a brilliant radiance spilled forth. As Lin Ming saw what was inside, his heart shook!

At the end of this corridor was actually a great world!

This great world had mountains and rivers, lakes and seas. And where Lin Ming was, where the door opened into, was high in the air, hundreds of thousands of feet up. He had a bird's eye view of the boundless world laid out before him!

On the continent of this world there was an endless road built from blue stone slabs. From the ground, it extended into the infinite heavens until it disappeared into the clouds of mist.

A cold wind blew through the air, dissipating some of the mist. He could see that even further in the distance, that endless blue stone road still stretched onwards. This blue stone road was simple and desolate, seeming to contain the aura of inexhaustible years.

Lin Ming's thoughts stirred. He dove down from where he was and stood atop the blue stone road.

“Mm?”

Suddenly, Lin Ming's pupils shrank. His eyes were attracted to something right in front of him on the blue stone road, in the center of a stone slab.

Right in front of him was a deep foot imprint.

Although it looked like an ordinary footprint, when this image reflected in Lin Ming's eyes it left him shocked. He could clearly feel a potent and awe-inspiring aura from this footstep, one as sharp and wild as a savage blade!

What sort of person could leave their footprint behind on this highest tier of rewards? After so many years, their footprint still existed as before, emitting such a dreadful aura!

Lin Ming composed his thoughts. He resolutely moved forwards on the blue stone road. Impartial and without bias, his foot stepped onto that footprint, perfectly fitting inside.

Bang!

A peal of thunder rang out in his mind. The world began to

change. A horrifying bang echoed out like a rolling cloud of thunder, leaving Lin Ming's ears shaking from the shock.

As his vision cleared, he discovered he was surrounded by countless dense auras.

One by one, all sorts of giant, horrifying, and blood-thirsty warriors surrounded him. They wore metal armors and wielded spears, halberds, sabers, swords, and more. There was every weapon that could be imagined here.

These giants all had weapons over 10 feet long that were stained with blood. They exuded a cruel and ominous killing intent, making one's heart race. And each one had a blood vitality so dense and pure that it created a halo of flame-like energy around them, making them seem like embodiments of dread.

Out of all these giants, there was one that was over 30 feet tall and had an aura so deep and vast, it was like an ocean. This giant had white hair that fell down his back like a waterfall, and he wore a shining silver war armor. He indifferently stared at Lin Ming.

These eyes were incomparably terrifying. Lin Ming didn't doubt that with this gaze alone, this giant could cause a peerless powerhouse's soul to shatter and fade away, forcing them to fall into an infinite abyss.

Facing these giants, Lin Ming discovered he wasn't a match for any one of them!

If so, that meant these giants were at least all unrivalled Great World King powerhouses!

However, what was strange was that even under so much killing intent, Lin Ming was still capable of withstanding their combined suppressive pressure. Moreover, he did so with ease!

Even that white haired warrior with the deep aura couldn't suppress Lin Ming.

This left Lin Ming startled. He subconsciously looked at himself

and discovered that he had completely changed in appearance.

At this time, his body was wrapped in thick dragon-like muscles. He had blood red hair that fell down his back and his chest and arms were completely covered with black scales. These scales didn't come from some Empyrean spirit treasure but emerged from within his body. On his face, strange demonic runes glowed. These demonic runes all seemed to faintly resonate with the Asura Heavenly Dao.

His looks had changed. His forehead was as sharp as a sword and his eyes were like sabers. He looked ferocious, untamed!

He grasped a dragon spear in his hand and the aura he exuded was enough to cause the surrounding space to gently tremble. This was an incomparably formidable feeling that Lin Ming had never experienced before.

Like a vast galaxy could be sundered in half by his spear!

This person was...

Lin Ming faintly realized that he had turned into this war god. The scenes he was seeing weren't an illusion, but something that had happened in the past! In other words, these were the residual memories of this war god!

Because he stepped onto the blue stone road and stepped on a footprint, Lin Ming could see the memories of this war god. And in these memories, Lin Ming was him. He stood as this war god did, facing his enemies!

“Kill!”

Lifting the spear, the war god stepped forwards. A terrifying spear light pierced forwards, penetrating through 4-5 giants and killing them in a single strike!

For some time, ruined limbs and flesh flew everywhere. Blood rained out.

“This sort of feeling is...”

The moment the war god attacked, Lin Ming could feel everything that he did! Everything he heard, saw, and felt, were all what the war god had experienced in the past. Every movement of the war god, every flow of energy, how every Law was applied, Lin Ming experienced them from beginning to end, as if he were the one fighting!

And these flows of energy and uses of Laws all left Lin Ming bewildered. This form of combat was considerably different from what he knew!

In particular, the Laws the war god used were that of the Asura Heavenly Dao. Moreover, his Asura Heavenly Dao had the 33 Heavens' Laws fused into it, making it incredibly mystical. What Lin Ming could comprehend was limited, but even this tiny bit of comprehension left him shaking with understanding.

The black armored war god leapt up and descended like a meteor. Every now and then he slowed down, and other times he would burst forth with an unbelievable speed, leaving nothing behind but countless afterimages.

Every movement was clear, swift, and fierce, without the slightest use of unnecessary strength. This could be called the perfect combat technique.

This combat skill combined with this powerful strength was astoundingly powerful.

“Who is this war god?”

Lin Ming couldn't help but wonder. Could this be the mysterious Asura Road Master?

Chapter 1692A – The Blue Stone Road

Bones piled like mountains, while flesh and blood flew in all directions!

The black armored war god slaughtered for three days and three nights! Every opponent he faced was incomparably formidable!

The black armored war god didn't have a single inch of unmarred skin. As he stood atop the mountain of corpses, his pupils still emitted a bright light, as if there was a brilliant flame burning deep within his soul.

Suddenly, the black armored war god let out a roar to the skies. His voice was like thunder, shaking the world. A blood red aura shot out from his body, soaring into the heavens.

On the blue stone road, Lin Ming seemed to have fallen into a nightmare.

His blood vitality tumbled and a faint blood red aura emitted from his skin. His body shivered and he immediately woke up, completely sober.

After awakening, the faint blood red aura that surrounded his body vanished into the air. But a lingering will still surrounded him, causing his heart to race.

As Lin Ming looked down, he could see he had only taken a single step on the blue stone road.

But this single step had left Lin Ming indescribably shocked. After all, whether it was the black armored war god or his enemies, all of them were unimaginable existences.

Who were they? Ancient races...?

The black armored war god was similar to the Black Asura that Lin Ming faced at the Gate of Laws. Their weapons were both dragon spears, but there were some differences in their

appearances.

Lin Ming didn't know if that black armored war god was the Asura Road Master. But he could feel that although the black armored war god was extremely powerful, he didn't surpass the realm of a True Divinity. To compare him to the Asura Road Master was far too difficult.

As for the enemies the black armored war god faced, they were a race that Lin Ming had never seen before, nor had he read about them in any ancient texts. It was clear they were of an ancient race that once existed 10 billion years ago.

He hesitated for a moment, then took the second step forwards.

With this step, Lin Ming stepped onto another blue stone slab.

As soon as he stepped on this second one, the world around him rapidly changed once more.

Strong gales howled around him. Mighty waves crashed into the air with a raging anger.

Huala!

Waves of salty sea water whipped onto his body, a bone piercing cold. The sea water all around him was deep, blood red and the air was filled with the thick taste of blood.

Thunder Hydras as large as mountain ranges were scattered throughout the sea, their giant corpses bobbing on the water's surface, seething up and down with the waves. Thick gushes of their natural divine blood essence flowed into the sea.

In the midst of this blood, there was the faint sparkling of the power of thunder.

Thunder Hydras were an extremely powerful God Beast tribal race. In the sea, they were a nearly unrivalled existence. But now, so many of them had died.

The black armored war god grasped a pitch black dragon spear as

he floated high above the sea. His body exuded a strange strength that echoed with the world around him, causing all the blood tides to stop 30 feet away from him.

In the center of the sea of Thunder Hydra corpses, there was an even more titanic Thunder Hydra. This Thunder Hydra was constantly swallowing the blood and flesh of other Thunder Hydras, fusing together with the remnant corpses.

Bolts of thunder as thick as buckets twined around this Thunder Hydra.

Its pupils shimmered with arcs of swirling electricity, like a yin yang dao diagram composed of the power of thunder. Just by looking at these strange eyes, one could feel their soul disintegrate.

These nine heads had 18 pupils that could suck in the divine souls of others. Every single eye was focused on the black armored war god that floated above the sea water.

The black armored war god's eyes were cold and dense. As he stared at this unfathomably large Thunder Hydra, there wasn't the slightest sign of fear on him. Rather, his chest bubbled over with a boiling fighting spirit.

Bang!

The black armored war god's vigorous figure collided with the ruler of the Thunder Hydras!

It was like two stars smashed into each other. A massive impact strength spread outwards, turning into a giant hurricane that cut open the endlessly deep sea, continuing downwards without end.

The aftermath of this strike nearly pierced through the world.

A surging strength exploded in all directions.

With this clash, the black armored war god was struck by innumerable bolts of thunder. His entire body glistened with flashing arcs of electricity.

His body was left in a frighteningly dreadful state.

But at this time, strange lines radiated in the black armored war god's eyes.

These lines were ancient and potent, containing the faint power of thunder within them. These lines could actually swallow up the lightning that raged about the black armored war god, allowing him to comprehend the Thunder Hydra ruler's thunder-based supernatural powers from within...

As for the Thunder Hydra ruler's supernatural powers, they were composed of countless mystical runes that faintly resonated with one of the 33 Heavens' Great Daos.

Placed within this sort of comprehension, Lin Ming also felt something. Within his inner world, there were faint arcs of electricity emerging from the Heretical God Tree, mysteriously hovering in the air...

This moment didn't last too long before it disappeared. Lin Ming returned to the blue stone road and took a third step.

This scene was still that of the black armored war god. The black armored war god had met an opponent that could stand on par with him – the king of an ancient race that stood 30 feet high. The king had two eyes that shined like stars in the void. Every time he breathed, there would be substantialized runes emerging from him like floating stars. They surrounded him like spiritual beings lying prostrate around their king.

From this aura, from this momentum, one could see that this ancient king was no weaker than the black armored war god!

Suddenly, the ancient king kicked forwards. Some of the runes atop this ancient king's hand condensed into a mountain that came crashing down atop the black armored war god.

The black armored war god's pupils shined. With a loud roar he welcomed the mountain of runes, jumping straight into the skies

to meet this threat.

Bang! Bang! Bang!

Every strike contained a strange coordination of Laws and energy; this left a deep and novel impression on Lin Ming.

The black armored war god's battle with the ancient king was earth-shaking and heaven-sundering.

The sea for 10,000 miles all around them surged and boiled, rapidly evaporating.

The two fiercely fought for one day and a night. Runes rushed into the black armored war god's body, causing his muscles to blast apart and his bones to shatter.

Lin Ming could feel that the black armored war god's blood vitality was being rapidly exhausted!

'His opponent... is strong!' Lin Ming's hear shook. But he knew that the black armored war god's opponent, this king of an ancient race, had actually sustained even heavier injured. His rock-like body seemed on the verge of collapse and his bones and muscles were exposed. These bones and muscles were like condensed runes, wrapped with the shining power of Laws and exuding a terrifying aura.

Suddenly, the ancient king's eyes glimmered with a fantastic light. On his broken body, his entire left hand actually disintegrated. From his flesh and blood, he had brought out the strongest source runes.

As these runes appeared they glowed as bright as stars, emitting a terrifying light that spread out in all directions and rumbling towards the black armored war god.

In that instant, the black armored war god was shackled down by these strange runes, rendering his entire body immobile.

Bang!

The black armored war god was suppressed by the runes and his blood was being forcefully squeezed out of his body. The blood floated in space, exuding an increasingly strong medicinal fragrance as more and more life was pressed out of the black armored war god's body.

Lin Ming was bewildered. He didn't think that the amazingly strong black armored war god would end up in such a dangerous situation.

However, before Lin Ming had time to respond, from the deepest depths of the black armored war god, the raging fire that was about to extinguish suddenly burst into an unimaginable conflagration, causing his soul to stir and be set aflame.

In that instant, the flesh and blood that floated in space suppressed, was pulled back into the black armored war god's body, completely revitalizing him. With a loud roar that boomed like thunder and shook the hills, a blood red aura shot out from the black armored war god, impacting the heavens.

With a loud rumbling, a boundless life essence energy directly crushed apart all the suppressive runes.

The black armored war god shot up from the ground once more, his body surging with a mysteriously burning, hot fighting spirit.

The ancient king was panic-stricken. He hurriedly moved to defend and shoot out more runes, but all of them were swallowed up by the black armored war god.

The black armored war god's spear strikes were like a hail of rain. Endless light blazed out, like 10,000 suns exploding together. The ancient king got covered under this assault, and in the next moment, a storm of blood rained down...

The king of an ancient race was cut down by the black armored war god.

Chapter 1692B - The Blue Stone Road

The limitless blue stone road continued onwards.

Everytime Lin Ming stepped onto the next blue stone slab, he would see another battle of the black armored war god. The slaughters continued without end, the black armored war god becoming increasingly strong.

Lin Ming didn't know who the black armored war god was. All he saw were the proud children of heaven from ancient races, geniuses of other universes, and primeval God Beasts, and all of these top existences got extinguished under the hands of the black armored war god.

In the frenzied battles, the fighting intent of the black armored war god, his mysterious and endless variations of martial arts, his skill in battle, everything was like waves of inspiration that Lin Ming slowly became aware of.

Like waves in a storm, all of this roiled within Lin Ming's mind. Mysterious runes and the faint power of Laws entered into his flesh and blood, marking him.

This sort of awareness was unfathomably profound but also extremely vague.

Although he couldn't understand these things any time soon, their influences still subtly changed him, greatly benefiting him.

He could clearly feel some unknown changes occurring within his body. The Asura Heavenly Dao Laws within him were even more profound and in terms of the source of thunder and fire, he had an even deeper understanding.

Even the Purple Temple Dao Palace and Heavenly Retribution Dao Palace floating within his sea of consciousness had a vast momentum that was different from before.

Walking over the blue stone road, one step at a time, Lin Ming's

surroundings changed once more. This time, he was no longer a black armored war god, but a tall man in white clothes.

The white robed man had a red dot on his forehead. He sat beneath a hundred million year old divine tree, his body seemingly fused into his surroundings.

Verdant green ribbons of energy dangled down from the boughs of the tree, lingering around the white clothed man. All sorts of life essence were slowly being absorbed by him.

This was an extremely marvelous feeling. As Lin Ming manifested as this white clothed man, all he could feel was some strange resonance occurring between the world and his flesh and blood, as if something wanted to drill out from his body.

He closed his eyes, silently comprehending...

The next step was still the white-clothed man. This white-clothed man was different from the black armored war god. There was no endless slaughter, but endless cultivation. His method of cultivation, his comprehension of Laws, they left Lin Ming feeling entirely different things and obtain a different harvest.

For a long period of time, the memories Lin Ming experienced were all of the white-clothed man.

But afterwards. There was a change in the main lead of the memories once again. This time, the owner of the memories had become a god king wielding a golden sword!

The strength of this god king was similar to the black armored war god. A single strike of him could sunder the heavens and shatter the earth! No one could be his enemy!

Lin Ming discovered that after every section of the blue stone road, the main lead of the memories would change. Although their auras had some similarities, their appearances were different and the Laws and cultivation methods they utilized were as different as the heavens and earth.

Many of these Laws were something that Lin Ming had never experienced before. Without a doubt, these were all various aspects of the 33 Heavenly Daos!

But who were these people?

Lin Ming was puzzled. Their strength seemed around the True Divinity level, but where had so many True Divinities come from?

Could these people all have stepped within this planet-sized immortal palace in the past?

But as soon as this thought appeared in Lin Ming's mind, he immediately refuted it. This was because the Asura level Gate of Laws was simply far too ridiculous a trial to pass; it was a heaven-defying act to perfectly cross it. Although Lin Ming couldn't say there had never been anyone that stepped into the immortal palace since the final trial began, he at least knew that there definitely weren't so many outstanding proud children of the heavens born in the last 10 billion years.

Could the memories of these peerless powerhouses recorded in the blue stone road have been the followers of the Asura Road Master?

If the Asura Road Master was an existence that surpassed a True Divinity, it wasn't strange for him to have so many True Divinities subordinate to him!

Lin Ming stepped forwards, step after step. The further he walked the taller and straighter his posture seemed to become, and his aura also became far more profound.

In the midst of all these changes, a silent and hidden strength emerged from the world, trailing around Lin Ming's body, vaguely beating in harmony with him...

Through constantly experiencing, watching, and comprehending, Lin Ming's steps became increasingly heavy.

At the start, Lin Ming only had some rough understandings into

the memories of the blue stone road. But the further Lin Ming climbed up, the more and more insights he gained from the memories.

As all of these deductions and comprehensions passed through Lin Ming's mind, beads of sweat began to drop down his forehead. The deeper his understandings became, the more Lin Ming realized just how unfathomably mysterious these Laws were.

Slowly, mysterious runes started to appear, swallowing in all of the secret strength that wrapped around the blue stone road. These runes shined like motes of light, little stars that slowly fled into Lin Ming's body, vanishing into his flesh and blood without a trace.

The more Lin Ming comprehended, the stranger his aura became. Sometimes his aura was light and as simple as clouds, like he had become one with the world. Sometimes his aura was majestic and grand, and still sometimes his aura was sad and shrill, enough to make ghosts and gods shudder.

At this time, Lin Ming arrived at the end of the blue stone road. He already stood 100,000 feet high in the sky, overlooking a boundless sea of clouds beneath him.

As Lin Ming was about to step foot on this last blue stone slab, he was actually startled.

This blue stone slab seemed extremely special. It was clearly only 10 feet wide, but as it fell into Lin Ming's eyes, it seemed endlessly spacious, wide to the point of being endless, nearly taking up the entirety of Lin Ming's sight.

Up until now, the aura of this final blue stone slab was the most intense that Lin Ming had ever seen. Just by approaching it, even he felt terrified and at a complete loss for words.

Lin Ming wasn't in a hurry to step foot on the final level of the blue stone road. he guessed that the special reward the Black Asura

mentioned in the Gate of Laws was likely located on this final blue stone road. Even so, Lin Ming instead decided to calm himself down. Without hastening his step to find this so-called reward, he instead sat down and began meditating.

Sitting deep in meditation, Lin Ming slowly recalled all the memories he had experienced along the way here.

As Lin Ming recalled them, his mind suddenly shook!

“I know... I finally know which True Divinity supreme elders had their memories recorded in the blue stone road!” Lin Ming whispered to himself. He should have realized this earlier. Of those memories, they had been from 33 different people, no more and no less!

This number allowed Lin Ming to immediately understand who they were.

Chapter 1693 – Holy Scripture

Of the 33 True Divinities along the blue stone road, although they had different appearances, their auras were actually quite similar.

Lin Ming had neglected to consider one possibility, and that was that these 33 True Divinity powerhouses were actually a single person!

Lin Ming remembered the words the Asura Road Master had left behind in the preface of the Asura Sutra: “The 33 Heavens, the boundless Great Dao. My resolve is to seek the peak of all martial arts. I spent 3,3 billion years to travel the 33 Heavens, cultivating 33 lives. One life one Empyrean, one life one Divinity. What I seek is the highest truth of the Heavenly Dao...”

To cultivate 33 lives.

One life one Empyrean, one life one Divinity!

As for the memories within the blue stone road, there were 33 True Divinities. It was a perfectly matching number.

In other words, these 33 True Divinities were likely the 33 reincarnations of the Asura Road Master!

He had cultivated 33 lives, cultivating a singular Heavenly Dao Law in each, spending a hundred million years each time to become a True Divinity! Moreover, the battles he fought during those lives, the cultivation memories, and the Laws he realized, all of them were cast into this blue stone road for his future descendants to observe and emulate!

Thinking of this, Lin Ming was utterly shocked. 33 reincarnations, each one cultivating all the way to the realm of True Divinity?

Just what sort of concept was that?

If the Asura Road Master had truly surpassed the realm of True

Divinity, Lin Ming suspected that the method he used to do so was to fuse together the True Divinity realm of these 33 reincarnations!

As he quietly felt the aura of the final blue stone slab, he could faintly feel that even though it was vast and terrifying, upon closer inspection it actually comprised 33 auras.

The Asura Road Master had reincarnated 33 times and had comprehended entirely different things during each of these 33 lives. Afterwards, everything he comprehended had been fused together. This was truly an incredible accomplishment.

On the blue stone slab, thin strands of the power of the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws bound together, incomparably thick, resembling a limitless abyss that blocked off everything. Even if someone were to stand here and wanted to take the final step forwards, it wasn't easy at all. They would need a powerful strength or a profound understanding of the Laws as a foundation.

Lin Ming hesitated for a moment, then his fingers drew a brilliant path through the void, one that harmoniously resonated with the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws atop the blue stone slab.

The blue stone slab that was blocked off by countless tight strands of the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws began to slowly unravel beneath Lin Ming's hands...

Lin Ming finally stepped up onto the final blue stone slab.

Once he did, his surroundings suddenly changed.

Lin Ming could feel the memories within the blue stone road once more. But this time, the one Lin Ming became was none other than the Black Asura that tested him within the Gate of Laws!

This time, the Black Asura held a dragon spear, a full head of red hair falling down his back. He mounted a great dragon and his skin shimmered with a metallic luster as his entire body was covered with strange and mystical runes.

He stood within the pitch black coldness of space. Beneath his

feet, trillions upon trillions of stars glittered. His pupils were like two blazing suns, emitting a terrifying light that lit up the endlessly distant darkness.

In that infinitely distant place, there was a man with a similarly terrifying aura, walking in from the other end of the galaxy.

Wherever this man walked, large tracts of space would be smashed apart. The power of innumerable stars was forcefully drawn out by this man and swallowed into his body.

This man's figure stood right in front of Lin Ming but was blurry. It was like thousands, hundreds of thousands, millions of copies of this man were walking towards him, all interposed over each other, giving off a mountain-heavy pressure.

Pa! Pa!

Lin Ming's heart raced. Even though he knew this man was nothing but a phantom, this was more than enough to shake his mind and make his heart tremble.

At the same time, a look of unprecedented earnestness appeared on the Black Asura's face.

The Black Asura's strength was as deep and vast as the sea; it could be called impossible to rival. Lin Ming even suspected that this Black Asura was the Asura Road Master's true self!

Just what proud son of heaven could be a worthy rival to the Asura Road Master?

Lin Ming looked at the man's figure. He wasn't a human, spiritas, or saint, he was from an ancient race that Lin Ming had never seen before. This caused Lin Ming to suspect something; 10 billion years ago, could the universe have been ruled by this ancient race? And after several great calamities, these ancient races declined. After which, the humans, saints, and spiritas gradually rose to prominence?

At this time, the shadow figure seemed to say something. His

outline swayed and distorted as he spoke. With every word he uttered, an incomparably massive rune would appear in the void.

Lin Ming couldn't hear this shadow figure's words. All he saw were those massive magical runes hurtle forwards, large enough to cover a world as they came crashing down on the Black Asura like a meteor.

The Black Asura forcefully tore open space like two cloth curtains, revealing a deep abyss. As those howling runes came crashing down, all of them entered into this strange space and disappeared.

As the shadow figure saw his own attack be so easily resolved, he lightly smiled, not thinking much of it. The shadow figure thrust out his hand, ripping open a spatial split and taking out a thick ancient book!

This ancient book had a black cover. And on its cover there were two incomparably old words. If Lin Ming hadn't studied the first volume of the Asura Sutra in Tragic Death Valley, he would've never recognized these two words.

“...Holy Scripture?”

Lin Ming was left in a daze. This shadow figure seemed to use this book as a weapon, and this book was called the Holy Scripture!

To use a book as a weapon, this was the first time Lin Ming had seen this. As for the name of the Asura Sutra, Lin Ming inexplicably recalled something: Empyrean Divine Mist had mentioned in Tragic Death Valley – the Spiritas Holy Scripture!

Was the Holy Scripture in the shadow figure's hands related to the Spiritas Holy Scripture?

This thought immediately flashed through Lin Ming's mind. He could faintly feel he had touched upon a great historical secret that spanned through the entire 33 Heavens and originated from the river of time 10 billion years ago.

At this time, the shadow figure opened the Holy Scripture in his hands. His lips moved and magical seals emerged from his mouth.

The Black Asura had been standing on a barren star, but in an instant, he was transported into a cruel hell world.

The blood waters of the yellow springs billowed around him, wildly rushing about. Endless bones sank and floated, each one emitting a strange aura of spiritual death energy. All of this swept up together into a titanic wave of blood that rushed towards the Black Asura.

Not just that, but all around him were a number of divine Buddha-like powerhouses with kind and gentle expressions. They sat on lotus flowers fashioned from pure white bones, their body releasing a glorious radiance.

Countless powerhouses tore through the void, bringing with them an endless strength as they hurtled towards the Black Asura.

Seeing all of this, Lin Ming was left dumbfounded.

He could see all of this through the perspective of the Black Asura, and he knew it was no illusion but a true great world. That shadow figure could produce life from nothing, using the Holy Scripture to create a Yellow Springs World to attack the Black Asura.

The strength of this mysterious man had truly reached a terrifying degree. It was no wonder that even the invincible Black Asura felt as if he had met an even opponent and was taking this battle with utter seriousness.

The Black Asura's eyes flickered with a divine light. Facing all the attacks from this Yellow Springs World, a pure black spear appeared in his hands.

On this black spear, the auras of innumerable dharmic abilities and supernatural powers swirled about. There was omnidirectional polar ice energy, great sun truefire, the true secret

source power of thunder, unending fearless battle intent, the will of endless spirits...

Every strength was something the Black Asura had comprehended in battle or from his opponent's bodies.

Even though these numerous and diverse strengths were brought together, in the Black Asura's hands, they all flowed in perfect harmony.

The spear tore through the void. In the infinite emptiness, it emitted a radiance that lit up the darkness of space.

In that instant, all of the mysterious strengths howled through the Yellow Springs World. Countless pillars of glorious light spread through the world, all of them emitting a terrifying level of energy.

The roiling yellow springs river was burnt away and dried up by the mystical source power of all fire. The white divine Buddha beings were torn up by incomparably sharp primal sword intent, even their lotus thrones made of bones were shattered to dust.

Endless mountains of bones collapsed and the earth cracked open.

The Yellow Springs World rapidly disintegrated, withering away beneath the rumbling powers of the Black Asura.

As the mysterious shadow man watched his Yellow Springs World collapse, there wasn't the slightest of change in his vast abyss-like aura. The only difference was a glimmer of vigilance that appeared in his eyes as he looked at the Black Asura.

At this time, the aura the Black Asura released became increasingly vast and his momentum began to reach terrifying levels.

All of the strengths he had comprehended over the last billions of years completely erupted at this moment.

The Black Asura's face began to change, becoming blurry as if he were carrying on him every single battle intent in the world, every Law in the universe. It was like his body became a horrifying universe that gushed out with endless mystical strength.

Bang!

With a single thrust of his spear, his strike shot towards the endless horizon. Wherever this spear strike passed, planets would shatter, stars would dim, and even the universe trembled. Dreadful space storms followed in its wake, sweeping out and enveloping all.

The overlapping layers of mysterious power carried with it all the secret forces of the 33 Heavens. This strength crushed through the endless space, smashing into the man on the other end of the galaxy.

That shadow man's complexion finally changed!

This attack of the Black Asura fused together all Laws of the 33 Heavens! It could even be said to have surpassed the 33 Heavens!

Rumble, rumble, rumble!

The shadow man wildly retreated, his body breaking apart space. He shot out endless powers of Laws, trying to stop the Black Asura's completely comprehensive attack that contained the powers of the 33 Heavens and also a trace of something that stood aloof from it.

"The power of the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws..."

Only Lin Ming knew in his heart that this horrifying strength that left the man on the other end of the galaxy panic-stricken was the power of the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws!

This was the unique power of Laws that stood outside the 33 Heavens. Whether it was now or 10 billion years ago, this strength was enough to shock the world. It was the masterpiece of the Asura Road Master, the ultimate power he established after

comprehending the Laws of the 33 Heavens to a great extent – the Asura Heavenly Dao! Its might was beyond any mortal description!

Bang!

The brilliant light pierced through all.

The mysterious man also disappeared in the spear light of the Black Asura. All that was left was the Holy Scripture in his hands still shining with a dreadful light, one that even the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws couldn't cover, as if the light of this book was unparalleled in existence!

Hu!

In the next moment, everything vanished.

Lin Ming fell to his knees, his entire body shaking and dripping with sweat. His body had nearly collapsed.

Just now, the final strike of the Black Asura had contained all the powers of the 33 Heavens' Laws. Just a single look was enough to consume all of his soul force.

Even so, he couldn't even deduce a millionth of what had just happened.

Chapter 1694 – The Final Reward

Standing on the last blue stone slab, Lin Ming finally let out a long sigh of relief.

Witnessing the final strike of the Black Asura just now, that fleeting moment had been enough to shock Lin Ming's heart and soul.

Walking this far, Lin Ming had experienced far too many things. Many experiences had surpassed his ability to understand them. However, the scenes on the blue stone road had all allowed Lin Ming to personally feel and live through them and they had left a profound mark on his memories. By accumulating all of these experiences, they would provide a great benefit to Lin Ming in cultivating the Asura Heavenly Dao in the future.

Even if these accumulations didn't directly enhance Lin Ming's strength by much right now, they were undoubtedly a priceless wealth he had obtained.

However, just this wealth alone wasn't enough to be called one of the most precious rewards in the entire final trial!

In the Gate of Laws, the reward the Black Asura mentioned should be something else.

As Lin Ming came to the end of the blue stone road, he took one more step forwards. Because this was the end, with this final step, Lin Ming stepped into the void.

After stepping into the void, Lin Ming felt his surroundings change. He had arrived into a black space filled with mist.

This black space was quiet and terrifying. As Lin Ming walked within this space he could clearly hear his breathing and heartbeat. Faintly, there were light flows of energy that wound about the black space.

These dim flows of energy came in three different colors. There

was grayish black, pitch black, and dark jade. As Lin Ming felt these three flows of energy, his mind shook. One of these three flows of energy was grandmist energy!

Lin Ming cultivated the Grandmist Laws. So, he had an extremely deep understanding of grandmist energy; it was impossible for him to be mistaken.

As for the other two flows of energy, Lin Ming had once come into contact with the dark jade colored one. When he had trained at Divine Dream Heavenly Palace, he had touched upon it when he studied the Divine Dream Law.

This dark jade color energy flow was spirit source!

Grandmist energy was the source of all matter in the universe. In other words, the source of 'essence'.

Spirit source was the source of the universe's Heavenly Dao. In other words, the source of 'divine'.

As for the last flow of energy, that was undoubtedly the source of all energies within the universe – genesis energy, the source of 'energy'.

The three great source powers of the universe's 'essence, energy, and divine' were all contained within this black space.

And these three source strengths slowly revolved around a singular point in space. As Lin Ming looked towards it, he could see that the space near it twisted about. In the deepest point of that space distortion, there was a single drop of viscous red liquid calmly floating about.

This drop of red liquid emitted an aura as deep and vast as the sea. The surrounding space was twisted because of the terrifying energy released from this drop of red liquid. The three source strengths revolved around this drop of red liquid, clearly stabilizing and enhancing it.

This was a drop of blood!

Moreover, this drop of blood contained an indescribably dense aura of the Great Dao Laws. At the same time, this drop of blood also contained a terrifying energy and power of will!

The aura that this drop of blood exuded was familiar to Lin Ming. It left his mind shaking.

In these past days, as Lin Ming walked down the blue stone road, he had lived some of the past experiences of the Asura Road Master. It was like he had personally accompanied the Asura Road Master throughout his journey.

He was extremely familiar when it came to the aura of the Asura Road Master. And in front of him, that drop of blood that shined like a star, was branded with the dreadful aura of the Asura Road Master!

If he wasn't mistaken, that drop of blood was left behind by the Asura Road Master!

Even though 10 billion years has passed, the vast essence energy and Heavenly Dao Laws contained within it hadn't dissipated in the least!

On the contrary, after being nourished by these three source strengths of the universe, this blood drop became increasingly dense and brilliant. Facing it, one found it difficult to breathe!

"This is... the final reward of the Asura level Gate of laws? A drop of blood left behind by the Asura Road Master?"

Lin Ming clenched his fists, his heart loudly beating in his chest.

The reward the Black Asura had mentioned, one of the most precious within the entire final trial, was a drop of his blood!

After spending the last several days in the star-like immortal palace, Lin Ming had walked down the blue stone road and had experienced and lived through the memories of the Asura Road Master that had been left there. These memories gave Lin Ming new enlightenments, new feelings, allowing him to enhance his

comprehension of the Laws. Although it was an extremely precious treasure, this still couldn't allow Lin Ming to leap forwards in strength in a short period of time, nor could it fundamentally alter Lin Ming's body and grant him a more terrifying strength or talent.

But the final reward at the end of the blue stone road, this drop of Asura's blood, was actually completely different!

10 billion years ago, the Asura Road Master had experienced endless battles and grasped the Laws of the 33 Heavens in his hands. He stood above the 33 Heavens and had created his own road.

For such a character, every tiny particle of his skin, flesh, blood, and bones was considered a priceless treasure. Each tiny part of him was marked with the true meaning of the Laws.

In this world, there were countless legends of martial artists randomly stumbling into the tomb of a senior martial arts powerhouse, and then comprehending the true meaning of a unique martial arts from their bones, obtaining an extraordinary inheritance in the process.

And this was particularly true for an outstanding existence like Asura. Within a single drop of his blood, there were undoubtedly things contained that surpassed Lin Ming's imagination.

Suppressing the bubbling excitement in his heart, Lin Ming stepped forwards in the void, slowly approaching the drop of Asura blood.

In the void, those three great source strengths seemed to become disturbed because of Lin Ming's arrival. Although they seemed calm and peaceful, the truth was that they were unfathomably dangerous.

A single wisp of grandmist energy was heavier than a star. If a mortal body were to be placed within it, they would simply be

crushed to nothing.

As for genesis energy, it contained an energy as fiery and wild as the sun. If this energy was poured into a martial artist's body, that martial artist would immediately turn to steam.

And for spirit source, that was the source of all mental strength and soul force. If spirit source were to enter a martial artist's spiritual sea and they couldn't withstand its terrifying strength, their spiritual sea would collapse and they would turn into mindless zombies.

But now, these three wild source strengths didn't hinder Lin Ming. Instead, they unexpectedly revolved around him, faintly nourishing his essence, energy, and divine. This caused his blood vitality to become increasingly vivid and exuberant, his inner world to become more prosperous and lush, and his soul to become even more tempered...

Lin Ming would pause for a long time after every step he took, as if he were pondering on something.

And at this time, the drop of blood suspended in the void seemed to be galvanized by something. It began to beat like a heart.

This beating tempo just happened to sync with Lin Ming's own heartbeat. It caused all of his bloody vitality to resonate! It was like a summon calling out to Lin Ming's bloodline, driving him forwards. This sort of feeling emerged from the depths of Lin Ming's very being, an unexplainable feeling.

At this time, a light voice echoed out from behind Lin Ming. "Do you know what that is?"

Lin Ming was startled. He immediately turned his head.

Standing not too far behind him was a black armored warrior holding a long spear, appearing from nowhere like gods and ghosts. This black armored warrior was the Black Asura from the Gate of Laws!

Chapter 1695 – Asura Blood

“Senior Asura!”

Lin Ming respectfully bowed.

In the Asura level Gate of Laws, the Black Asura’s three moves had nearly killed him. Even so, Lin Ming felt nothing but a heartfelt respect towards the Black Asura.

“Do you know what that is?”

The Black Asura asked one more time as he gazed at the drop of mystical blood floating in the void.

Lin Ming politely said, “If junior isn’t wrong, then that is a drop of blood left behind by the Asura Road Master!”

“You are a smart boy... however, that is not just a drop of blood.”

The Black Asura wasn’t surprised that Lin Ming had guessed the origin of this blood drop. Lin Ming has passed through the blue stone road and had withstood a baptism of memories from the 33 reincarnations of the Asura Road Master. If he couldn’t guess that this drop of blood was left behind by the Asura Road Master then he never would have had the qualifications to pass the Asura level Gate of Laws.

Lin Ming didn’t speak, instead waiting for the Black Asura to continue.

The Black Asura sighed and said, “He is the one who refined this drop of blood. In the past, he took a single drop of his blood essence and fused the 33 Heavenly Dao Laws into it, also integrating into it the power of his divine soul and source energy. Then, he placed it into the Eternal Divine Furnace and slowly tempered it with fires made of Laws gathered from the 33 Heavens. With each of the various Laws from the 33 Heavens he fired up this drop of blood for 10,000 years each time, using up a total of 330,000 years to refine this drop of blood...”

As the Black Asura spoke, Lin Ming was shocked. To refine a single drop of blood for 330,000 years? This was a length of time that even stunned Lin Ming.

Lin Ming asked, “The Asura Road Master used 330,000 years to refine this drop of blood?”

Lin Ming felt this unbelievable. Just what sort of peerless supreme elder was the Asura Road Master? His time was inevitably extremely precious. Although his lifespan was incalculable, spending 330,000 years on a single drop of blood as an inheritance was far too shocking.

The Black Asura shook his head. “It’s not as you think. After he placed the drop of blood into the Eternal Divine Furnace, he poured in the Laws of the 33 Heavens and then laid down a great array to maintain the fires of Laws. These 330,000 years were with it being independently refined within the Eternal Divine Furnace.”

“So that’s how it was...” Lin Ming nodded. Although the Asura Road Master had refined this drop of blood from beginning to end, the Laws, power of the divine soul, and source energy within this drop of blood originated from the Asura Road Master himself. That was an existence that surpassed the boundary of a True Divinity – just how precious were these energies? It was simply impossible to imagine!

However, the Black Asura’s explanation left Lin Ming a bit puzzled. The Black Asura had referred to the Asura Road Master as ‘he’. Lin Ming originally thought that the Black Asura was a phantom left behind by the Asura Road Master, but the way the Black Asura referenced the Asura Road Master had shut down Lin Ming’s guess.

“Senior... the way you referred to the Asura Road Master...”

Lin Ming finally couldn’t help but curiously ask. The Black Asura seemed to understand what Lin Ming wanted to know and calmly replied, “The one who refined this Asura blood is the main body of

the Asura Road Avatar. He had 33 avatars, and as for me, I am but a single incarnation left behind by one of those avatars...”

“I see...”

Lin Ming was dumbfounded. The incarnation left behind by an avatar was already so powerful; it was hard to imagine just what realms the Asura Road Master’s strength had reached.

“Thank you Senior!”

Lin Ming bowed once more. Without a doubt, the reason the Black Asura remained here was in order to preside over the final trial. As for him obtaining one of the greatest lucky chances in the final trial, in a sense this was all thanks to the Black Asura.

“Take the drop of blood. This is one of the most precious rewards in the final trial...”

As the Black Asura spoke he turned around and left. His form gradually faded into the thick darkness.

Lin Ming took a deep breath and walked in front of the drop of Asura blood. With another bow of utmost respect, he began to slowly approach that drop of blood.

As Lin Ming approached the drop of Asura blood, he could feel all of his blood vitality being drawn forwards by it. The energy within his inner world was stirred up, wanting to howl outwards!

Lin Ming suppressed his restless blood vitality. Then, he stretched out both hands to grasp that drop of Asura blood!

The moment that he touched the drop of Asura blood, Lin Ming felt as if he had grasped a blazing hot sun!

A vast surge of heat transmitted out from the drop of Asura blood.

An ancient and mystical strength erupted from the drop of Asura blood, continuously rolling towards Lin Ming.

The Asura Road Master had fought his entire life – just how vast

was his essence energy and blood vitality? The essence contained within a single drop of blood was like the moon and stars, stretching to the endless distance!

This drop of blood essence was incomparably heavy. When Lin Ming held it in his hands, it was like a pervasive drop of mercury, seeping into his pores and into his body!

For a time, Lin Ming's body that was as tough as divine iron began to fill with a seemingly infinite amount of life essence energy, expanding like a balloon without end.

His flesh and blood, his skin, every cell in his body bubbled as a vast life force surged within him.

This sort of infusion continued for a long time. Lin Ming only felt as if there was magma flowing in his blood vessels!

Chi chi chi!

Lin Ming could feel his own flesh and blood being burnt beneath the tremendous strength of this blood essence!

Although the Asura blood raged like a firestorm, it didn't resist Lin Ming absorbing it at all. Otherwise, if it wanted to swallow Lin Ming's body instead, even if Lin Ming used every method at his disposal he still wouldn't be able to resist against this single drop of Asura blood!

Roar!

With a resonant dragon's cry, an Azure Dragon phantom appeared behind Lin Ming. Then a keening phoenix cry echoed out in the world as a phoenix phantom also appeared behind him.

This was the dragon and phoenix bloodline within Lin Ming's body. Summoned by the call of the Asura Road Master's blood essence, these two bloodlines were stimulated!

Whether it was a True Dragon or True Phoenix, both were magnificent God Beasts when grown up, even comparable to

Empyreans. There were some royal God Beasts with rare bloodlines, such as phoenixes that underwent nine nirvanas, that could compare with True Divinities!

But in front of the Asura Road Master, even a True Divinity was nothing at all.

Thus, this was why just a single drop of the Asura Road Master's blood essence was able to stir up the dragon and phoenix blood within Lin Ming!

A dragon roared and a phoenix screeched through the skies. Lin Ming's mortal body emitted explosive crackling sounds!

When all of this life essence entered Lin Ming's body, an even more terrifying aura began to emerge from him.

This aura was similar to the Asura battle mark left behind in the drop of Asura blood, as well as some strengths of incomparably mysterious Laws!

This endless mystical power of Laws brought with it a primal and vigorous strength that fused into Lin Ming's skin, flesh, and bones, finally even merging into the deepest depths of his soul.

On the blue stone road, Lin Ming had experienced countless battles that the Asura Road Master had gone through.

He had obtained a massive number of comprehensions.

But, these comprehensions remained obscure and hazy, like a fog he couldn't see through. Lin Ming only comprehended a superficial amount of these experiences, and most of those Laws were like mysteries hidden in the fog; he wouldn't be able to comprehend them for some time.

But now, the deep meaning of the Laws contained within the Asura blood, as well as a tremendous amount of combat comprehensions directly merged into Lin Ming's body.

Many cryptic things that Lin Ming couldn't understand began to

shine in his mind, becoming clearer.

Peng –

A flaming fighting intent gushed out and Lin Ming's entire body began to change. His face became blurry like the waves of a tumbling ocean, like he was wearing a mask of flickering flames. His hair turned blood red and his body rose up, taller and more solid.

A wild and limitlessly violent momentum burst out from his body.

Peng –

Another mystical strength shot out. Arcs of sizzling lighting wrapped around his body, turning into pitch black thunder armor that wrapped every inch of Lin Ming's body in flashing electricity.

This power of thunder that twisted around Lin Ming carried with it the aura of life and the aura of death. Beneath Lin Ming's feet, the ground turned to black coal even as lush green grass broke upwards, shimmering with life.

Peng, peng, peng...

A profound and fathomless strength burst out from Lin Ming's body, and his appearance began to change once more.

It was like his body had metamorphosized, becoming like Asura from 10 billion years ago.

As each mystical strength erupted from his body, his aura, facial appearance, temperament, figure, everything would also have strange changes.

At the same time, the surrounding space of the world was influenced by these mystical strengths, distorting without end.

In his mind, a tremendous amount of combat techniques and ways of utilizing and circulating these mystical strengths began to appear within Lin Ming's heart, rapidly increasing his strength.

This sort of strength was different from ones he had gained in the past.

His strength at this moment was a kind of comprehensive strength. For some martial artists, combat skills, experiences, use of mystic abilities, and even a fighting spirit formed from a tempered divine soul, and all of these required a long period of accumulations.

But at this time, Lin Ming had already harvested a colossal amount of accumulations.

As more and more strength erupted from his body and more and more comprehensions flowed into his mind, the mystical powers gushing out from Lin Ming's body became increasingly potent.

Finally, his constantly changing facial appearance began to gradually condense. Even his momentum and temperament became sharper, gaining form.

Behind Lin Ming, the mystical strengths and Law runes condensed into the phantom of an Asura. This Asura phantom had three heads and six arms, grasping a weapon in each hand. Its eyes all stared in different directions, each eye revealing a strange and unusual power. Black energy, heart-freezing ice, raging plasma fire, lingering thunder...

The Asura phantom swirled in space, slowly attaching onto Lin Ming's body. Then, mysterious curse seals began to appear on Lin Ming's face.

These mysterious curse seals were similar to the marks that covered the face of the black-armored war god and the Black Asura; they contained the mysteries of the Asura Heavenly Dao!

At the same time, Lin Ming's bones began to shine with runes. All sorts of mystical strengths from the heavens and earth gathered and formed armor that covered his skin. Lin Ming's hair began to crazily grow and his joints exploded as his body grew!

Like this, Lin Ming grew half a foot higher! His muscles became denser and the outline of his body far more perfect.

After stimulating the strength of the Asura Road Master's blood essence, Lin Ming had undergone a body metamorphosis!

“This is...”

Lin Ming looked down at his hands. His hands were covered with curse seals. The power of the Asura blood howled within Lin Ming's body. It was like an unimaginable strength was wildly raging within his body, a strength so great that it could not be used up, wishing to be vented.

Roar!

Lin Ming's head fell back and he roared towards the heavens. His voice was like an incomparably sharp divine sword that pierced through the heavens! Because of this shout, the entire world seemed to tremble!

At this moment, Lin Ming felt as if he had been reborn!

Chapter 1696 – Rudimentary Dao Palace

A terrifying strength flooded through Lin Ming's body. Although the power of the Asura blood had fused into Lin Ming's flesh and blood, it had yet to be thoroughly absorbed by him. Rather, it should be said that Lin Ming had only absorbed a small part of this Asura blood and there was still a tremendous amount of this energy within him that was still continuously fusing into his meridians, divine soul, and inner world.

On Lin Ming's face and body, those mystical curse seals became deeper in color like blood flowing across his features, shimmering without end.

Lin Ming could feel that there was an incredible amount of strength within his body, so vast that he nearly couldn't contain it and would burst apart at any moment.

Woosh! Woosh! Woosh!

At this time, the Asura blood that had no place to vent this energy burst into Lin Ming's spiritual sea and inner world like a storm!

Although this drop of blood was originally only the size of a pearl, Lin Ming's spiritual sea and inner world were actually swept up into a raging red sea!

Blood red waves as high as mountains engulfed the world, wildly rampaging about!

Within Lin Ming's spiritual sea, the blue soul battle spirit bore the brunt of this impact. It was completely sucked up in this Asura blood!

The spear-shaped battle spirit was soaked in this Asura blood, seething about. The essence of the Asura blood wildly plunged into the spear-shaped battle spirit. Lin Ming felt his spiritual sea shake as a severe pain lit up every inch of his mind!

The Asura blood contained the will of the Asura Road Master. Even for Lin Ming, withstanding this will was no easy matter!

Hum –

The battle spirit shivered, sending out a clarion cry!

It was like Lin Ming's battle spirit was unable to withstand the tempered forging of this will, as if it would crack apart at any moment!

Lin Ming grit his teeth, persisting through the pain. He was well aware that his blue soul battle spirit had long reached the peak of small success and was nearing the boundary of large success. If he could absorb the power of the Asura blood and withstand the baptism of the Asura Road Master's will, his blue soul battle spirit would reach large success at the barest minimum!

Perhaps it might even reach blue soul perfection.

And as Lin Ming was withstanding the baptism of the Asura will, a gut-wrenching pain transmitted from his dantian. With a cough, he nearly fell down to his knees!

Looking into his inner world, Lin Ming's complexion changed!

At this time, massive turbulent waves crashed through the mountain valleys of his inner world and even the lakes and rivers were swallowed up by an unimaginable amount of waves. Up in the sky, the clouds were washed away by this torrential tide of blood energy!

This red tide hurtled towards the boundaries of Lin Ming's inner world, unstoppable. These boundaries were immediately torn asunder by the terrifying energy, forcing Lin Ming's inner world to constantly develop!

In that moment, Lin Ming was panic-stricken!

With the rapid development of the boundaries of his inner world, that meant he would soon break through to the next boundary!

And looking at this wild and overwhelming momentum, if Lin Ming allowed this to continue then it was possible for him to break through straight into the Holy Lord realm!

However, just several years ago Lin Ming had reached the late Divine Lord realm. If he were to directly jump past the half-step Holy Lord realm and into the Holy Lord realm, that would be far too quick.

When a martial artist cultivated the martial path, they had to proceed in an orthodox and orderly fashion.

This was because in walking down the road of martial arts, it wasn't just an issue of accumulating cultivation. One also had to perceive the Heavenly Dao Laws and master their martial skills. Many peerless geniuses would intentionally suppress their own cultivation until they couldn't contain the energy within their bodies any longer. Only then would they make a successful breakthrough and step into the next boundary.

Lin Ming had continuously done so. After breaking through Ninefall, entering the Divine Sea, then Divine Transformation, every step he took had been steady and solid, with him consolidating his foundation to the limit. Whether it was in comprehension of laws or martial skills and techniques, he far surpassed all other martial artists of his level!

But now, Lin Ming had just broken through to the late Divine Lord realm. If he jumped past the half-step Holy Lord realm and became a Holy Lord this would instead greatly weaken his foundation. Although this would give him a tremendous power boost in combat strength for a short period of time, if he wanted to recover from this in the future he would have to spend an even greater disproportionate amount of time and energy. The gains simply weren't worth the losses.

Thinking of this, Lin Ming grit his teeth. Using all the strength of his body he forcefully suppressed the terrifying energy fluctuations

of the Asura blood!

Chi chi chi!

Within Lin Ming's inner world, the Heretical God Tree madly grew. Roots radiated outwards, digging down and plunging into the Asura blood, wildly absorbing its essence. The pure source energy also entered into Lin Ming's inner world, forming ancient and vigorous runes of the Asura Heavenly Dao. These runes reinforced the boundaries of Lin Ming's inner world even as they sealed away the Asura blood, wanting to suppress the remaining energy.

However, the Asura blood was simply far too powerful. Even if Lin Ming used the Heretical God Tree and the power of the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws it was still far too difficult to suppress!

The Asura Heavenly Dao could seal away the Asura blood, but in a situation where the disparity in strength was far too great, there was a limit in the amount that Lin Ming could seal away.

Peng!

With a loud explosive sound, the boundaries of Lin Ming's inner world began to break down once more!

The raging red sea smashed against the barriers of the inner world, rapidly developing the chaotic space and expanding it. If this continued then Lin Ming would reach the Holy Lord realm sooner or later!

And such a barbaric method of developing the inner world was the same as razing the land; it would instead ruin Lin Ming's foundation.

In this critical moment, Lin Ming shouted out once more. Above his head, a black void seemed to rip open as a mysterious and radiant starlight fell down like a river of stars, flowing all over Lin Ming's body.

Brilliant stars appeared above Lin Ming's head, nine of them in

total!

Lin Ming was well aware that just relying on the essence gathering system was no longer enough to contain the terrifying strength of the Asura blood – he had to use the body transformation system!

Humanity's Nine Stars of the Dao Palace were not permitted by the Heavenly Dao. In order to break through a boundary, each time required a massive volume of energy. Lin Ming summoned the nine stars of the heavens above him because he wanted to use the Nine Stars of the Dao Palace to contain the Asura blood!

Since the Asura blood was so incomparably powerful, he would contend with it using the power of the Heavenly Dao!

Chi chi chi!

Lin Ming's entire body was bathed in mercurial starlight. His bodily strength began rapidly rising upwards.

Without hesitation he opened up the Purple Temple Dao Palace and the Heavenly Retribution Dao Palace. Using the power of the stars, he forcefully sundered apart the sea-like Asura blood!

Underneath the quickening of the power of stars, the tumbling red waves turned into nine red columns of water that shot into the air like crimson dragons, rushing out from Lin Ming's inner world and into his flesh and blood!

Nine fluctuations of energy constantly converged into the nine Dao Palaces within Lin Ming's body!

Of these nine Dao Palaces, only the Purple Temple and Heavenly Retribution Dao Palaces had been completely opened. As for the other Dao Palaces, their rudimentary form hadn't been formed. For a time, from nine points in Lin Ming's body, a blinding starlight shot out. This starlight fused together with the power of the Asura blood and turned blood red, an enchanting and captivating sight!

At this moment it was like Lin Ming's body had become a star!

The Nine Stars of the Dao Palace, especially those seven Dao Palaces that had yet to open, were like fathomless pits that recklessly swallowed the power of the Asura blood. As the raging red sea entered these points, it vanished without a trace!

The pressure on Lin Ming's inner world suddenly lightened. Within Lin Ming's inner world, the areas where those nine Dao Palaces should be began to shine. The areas of the seven unopened Dao Palaces actually began to faintly form seven bright red rudimentary forms of Dao Palaces.

These rudimentary Dao Palaces were ethereal and misty. After fusing together with the terrifying power of the Asura blood, they faintly brought with them the dreadful aura of the Asura Laws...

This rate of absorption continued for three days.

During this period of time, Lin Ming's mind was extremely tense. Using the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws and the power of the stars, he guided the terrifying energy within the Asura blood to vitalize the seven Dao Palaces within his body. Moreover, Lin Ming's battle spirit also continuously withstood a baptism of the Asura will, being tempered and enhanced without end.

Without noticing it, Lin Ming's battle spirit became increasingly radiant, as it shined like blue-green jade.

And within his body, the seven rudimentary Dao Palaces became increasingly clear. Looking around, one could see a misty blood fog that contained a horrifying blood energy.

When the last dregs of the Asura blood's strength were absorbed, Lin Ming felt his entire body collapse downwards and his vision blur.

His body gently trembled. Then, he lost consciousness as he slumped to the ground.

After consuming his strength for three days and three nights, Lin

Ming had completely overdrawn the power of his essence, energy, and divine, leaving him in a lethargic and nearly catatonic state. Now, he finally fell into a deep slumber...

After sleeping for an unknown period of time, Lin Ming finally opened his eyes. He propped himself upwards and looked at his hands and body. Those mystical curse seals that covered his body were already gone.

However, they hadn't vanished and had instead hidden themselves within Lin Ming's flesh and blood. As long as Lin Ming summoned the power of Asura, these curse seals would be activated and reappear on Lin Ming's skin.

Through these curse seals, Lin Ming could better utilize the power of the Asura Laws and his combat strength would rise to another level!

Lin Ming also returned to his original height and the scales on his body had vanished. Just from looking at his appearance, there wasn't any difference from before he had absorbed the Asura blood.

But, Lin Ming knew that his strength had taken a comprehensive leap upwards!

Because Lin Ming had forcefully suppressed his cultivation it had only risen by a small boundary, reaching the half-step Holy Lord realm!

From the late Divine Lord realm to half-step Holy Lord, Lin Ming had only used several years. Although this speed was still too quick it was only the difference of a small boundary; wanting to make up for the damage to his foundation wouldn't be difficult at all.

As for his battle spirit, beneath the baptism of the Asura will, it had finally broken through blue soul small success and reached blue soul large success, even approaching blue soul perfection.

And above all that, Lin Ming's greatest harvest was the nine Dao

Palaces within his body!

The Purple Temple and Heavenly Retribution Dao Palaces had been covered with a faint red light after being nourished by the Asura blood. They were like rubies soaked deep in blood.

As for the other seven Dao Palaces, only the rudimentary forms of the Dao Palaces had appeared; they hadn't truly opened. But in the future, if Lin Ming were to use medicines to open these Dao Palaces it would actually be much easier, and when he opened them, the Dao Palaces would be that much more formidable!

Lin Ming took a deep breath and stood up on his feet. He could feel a dreadful strength contained within his body, one that he wanted to hurry up and release!

After absorbing the Asura blood, Lin Ming's strength had completed an evolution upwards. But, because such a terrifying strength had entered into Lin Ming's spiritual sea, inner world and nine Dao Palaces, his body wasn't able to adapt to all of these changes any time soon.

This caused some disruptions in Lin Ming's aura. At the same time, it was mixed with the Heretical God Force, grandmist energy, black hole aura, and the Asura Heavenly Dao aura.

If Lin Ming wanted to thoroughly master and unite all of these strengths together, the quickest method to do so would be to fight! In a high intensity battle where he tempered his own combat strength, only then would all of these strengths fuse together!

Thinking of this, a brilliant flaming fighting spirit burst out from Lin Ming's eyes. With large steps he walked forwards, heading towards the fourth level of the final trial!

Chapter 1697 – Black Dragon Spear

The sky was gray and dim, as if it had existed in a state of perpetual twilight since time immemorial.

Nine dark blood red suns hung high and hazy in the heavens, emitting a weak heat.

Hu - !

One side of the earth was covered with blazing hot winds. The winds spun and howled, scorching the earth black.

The ground was bare and desolate. Dark red peaks twisted in the distance within the heat, distorting like undulating flames in the wind.

On another side of the earth, there was a world wrapped in snow and ice. The forests, mountain ranges, rivers, everything was covered with ice. This was a world of ice, a cold and gloomy yin chill that permeated everything.

Burning heat and freezing cold, these two sides were clearly divided in this strange land even as they struggled with each other. It was a strange and marvelous sight.

A cutting slithering sound transmitted from deep within the fields of ice.

On the distant horizon, a silver mountain-like outline appeared. Upon a closer look, one could see that this was an incomparably massive silver python rapidly snaking over the round.

As it winded its way forwards, it smashed apart icebergs, leaving massive cracks in the ice sheets.

And standing atop this silver python's head was the Divine Void Third Crown Prince. His expression was still haughty and imperious, looking down at all with disdain. The only difference was that the dragon crown on his head was crooked and his clothes

were stained with blood as if he had undergone a vast slaughter battle, and the process hadn't been easy either!

Closely following behind the Divine Void Crown Prince were two people flying through the winds. One was Duke Fullmoon and the other was a young man with thick muscles wrapped over his body and eyes that exploded with a sharp light.

This other young man had deep scars crisscrossing his body that were tainted with some black energy, as if he had been struck by some mysterious curse strength.

Duke Fullmoon also didn't have his smiles of days past. One of his eyebrows had been ripped in half and his complexion was macabre.

After stepping into the final trial's fourth level, the difficulty rose dramatically once more! Even a squad of outstanding martial artists would fall into perilous situations if they weren't careful!

In these lands there were ghosts, evil races, and all sorts of monstrous beings, all of them having the terrifying strength of a World King and above!

Thus, this was the reason why some trial challengers that passed the Gate of Laws had returned to the third level even though they knew that the fourth level was abundant with lucky chances. They simply didn't dare to continue venturing deeper in this cursed land.

Once they returned to the third level, this meant that to them, the final trial had ended.

As for Duke Fullmoon and the Divine Void Crown Prince's squad, they were a union of power and power. Even so, after arriving on the fourth level, they had experienced cold and brutal battles!

"Crown Prince Your Highness, there is an unusual aura over there..." Duke Fullmoon said with some doubt as he looked at some place in the distance where ice and fire met together.

In that area, he could feel a demonic aura that rose to the heavens!

Standing beside the Crown Prince, a tall and burly young man took out a strange map that had been pieced together. The map illustrated a dense terrain covered with colored lines.

This was a map of the final trial that was handed out by Divine Void Divine Kingdom. In truth, using this map as a reference point wasn't too useful, because the world of the fourth level was created by the elemental powers of metal, wood, water, fire, and earth. Each one of these elemental lands had rare treasures, and every now and then these elemental regions would shift and transform, migrating to other areas. Thus, each time this trial occurred there would be different dangers and different lucky chances.

If they were to spend a great deal of time and effort piecing together a map now, at the next final trial that map would only be 20-30% usable.

The tall and burly man frowned. He said, "Crown Prince Your Highness, Duke Fullmoon, the deeper we head into the fourth level the more dangers there will be. In the fourth level, our squad is already considered quite a ways in. In the battles just now we've experienced some struggles and have sustained some minor wounds. The area that Duke Fullmoon mentions is even deeper in, and if we go there we might have to face greater dangers..."

The deeper one ventured into the fourth level, the more dangers there were. But correspondingly, the better the lucky chances were!

In the middle of the fourth level, there had already been many squads that had members die because of the various dangers here. Many squads had reached the middle of the fourth level and stayed there, waiting for the entrance to the fifth level to open.

In almost every case, the entrance to the fifth level would appear in the middle of the fourth level. As for everything past that, that

was a land filled with treasures and lucky chances. However, there was killing intent spread through every inch of land. The strong could journey in, but the weak had to give up.

In this final trial, there was only an extremely small number of squads that were willing to venture deep into the fourth level. As for the Divine Void Crown Prince, his squad was one of these.

The Divine Void Crown Prince's complexion changed as he weighed the advantages and disadvantages. Riches and glory always came with danger. Lucky chances like this weren't common, so with such a lucky chance placed in front of him, how could he be willing to leave?

After a moment of thought, the Divine Void Crown Prince gloomily said, "To cultivate the martial path is to struggle with the heavens at every step. Many people struggle to find lucky chances, and if there is a lucky chance placed in front of us and we do not try to grasp it, why do we still cultivate the martial path? Let's go and take a look!"

As the Divine Void Third Crown Prince spoke, a brilliant light shot out from his eyes. He gazed towards the direction where that massive aura was surging out from and pointed his hand outwards.

The silver python beneath his feet was an intelligent creature and was able to feel the fluctuations in its master's thoughts. With a loud roar, a cloud-piercing, stone-cracking sound echoed through the world as it rapidly accelerated forwards, towards the area that the Divine Void Third Crown Prince indicated. As the silver python's massive form tore through the air, a sharp whistling sound howled out. Innumerable mountain peaks were crushed and an equal number of rivers were cut off beneath the silver python.

Duke Fullmoon and the young man launched their movement techniques and followed close behind. The young man's name was Juku. Of the two of them, Duke Fullmoon was a World King and Juku was a half-step World King. However, Juku still possessed

the combat strength of a World King.

After a quarter hour passed, the silver python's speed slowed. They finally stopped in front of a pitch black land that was cracked and scorched.

A vast and irresistible aura transmitted from the space above this land.

In the void, the powers of freezing cold and burning flames howled as they twisted around a mountain-sized jet black rock shaped like a square.

All around this rock were mysterious giant runes, floating and sparkling.

As the Divine Void Crown Prince stood high atop the silver python, he was just able to see that at the top of this massive square rock, at the very center, was a True Dragon!

This True Dragon was pure black and only 10 feet long. The Divine Void Crown Prince had never seen such a small True Dragon before. Its body was covered with scales and it clawed at the void, roaring out as it did so. Its dark eyes flitted back and forth, as sharp and bright as lightning. A deep atmosphere of blood and death surrounded it.

The Divine Void Crown Prince was startled. Why was there a dragon here?

The final trial mystic realm had existed for 10 billion years already. It was impossible for a Black Dragon to survive for such a long time. Moreover, this Black Dragon was only 10 feet long; it was simply unthinkable!

Not only was the Divine Void Crown Prince shocked, but Duke Fullmoon and Juku were equally dumbfounded.

They glanced at each other and then back towards the Black Dragon. But as they looked again, the scene they saw was different.

What Black Dragon was there? At the center of the black rock, it was clearly a black long spear that was stabbed into the rock! This spear was covered with a vast and pure demonic strength. The demonic strength gathered together, condensing into the phantom of a Black Dragon that danced in the air.

This spear was 10 feet long and the dark spear shaft shined with an icy metallic luster. The spear head was stabbed into the center of the rock so it was impossible to see. But, even though it was stabbed into the black rock, one could still feel that it was incomparably sharp, as if it could tear apart all of space. Even from hundreds of thousands of feet away, one still felt as if the sharp point of the spear head was hanging above their head, ready to come falling down at any moment and grind one to dust. It was a feeling that left the heart racing.

“This is...”

The Divine Void Crown Prince was shocked.

Was the Black Dragon just now an illusion? Had they mistaken that dragon-shaped demonic energy for a Black Dragon?

If one of them had seen incorrectly then that might have been acceptable, but for all three of them to see the wrong thing, that was unusual!

As the saying went – divine spear like dragon. Could it be because this spear truly held the charm of a dragon, thus at first glance they had thought it to be a True Dragon?

“This is a divine spear. I fear that its grade might surpass an Empyrean spirit treasure!”

The Divine Void Third Crown Prince’s pupils shrank and his breathing became a bit ragged and loud. Greed shined in his eyes.

If Lin Ming were here he would have instantly identified that this black spear was in fact extremely similar to the dragon spear that the Black Asura had held in the Gate of Laws!

If so, then the significance of this spear was beyond extraordinary!

“Haha, to find this spear is Your Highness’ great lucky chance as well as our great lucky chance!

As Juku gripped the pieced-together map, all the muscles on his body began to bulge out.

Duke Fullmoon also gulped; after all, he too was a spear master. However, he was well aware that with the Divine Void Third Crown Prince standing right beside him, it wouldn’t be his turn for such a good thing. Still, he could drink a little of the soup afterwards.

And indeed, the Third Crown Prince said, “Don’t worry, I will not take sole possession of this spear; after all, my weapon is not a spear. I will take this spear and gift it to our Divine Kingdom and we shall be rewarded with unimaginable riches!”

The Divine Void Crown Prince was skilled in manipulating emotions and thoughts; he naturally wouldn’t do something so stupid like betraying the heart of his subordinates.

“Your Highness, allow me to fetch it!” Juku eagerly said.

“Be careful!”

The Divine Void Third Crown Prince nodded.

Juku suppressed the excitement in his heart and flew into the air. After moving forwards a thousand feet he remained high in the sky. Facing the black spear he traced his spatial ring and took out two blood red puppets. These puppets were created by a World King level puppet master and in the hands of a martial artist familiar with puppet techniques, they could display a strength at the late Divine Lord realm.

In the final trial, a late Divine Lord puppet wasn’t worth mentioning at all; it simply wasn’t much use in battle. But, using them for exploring the way was extremely useful.

Juku guessed that this Black Dragon Spear wouldn't be easy to obtain. In order to grow up to the level he was at, he couldn't be an idiot. If he were to recklessly try to take such a great treasure, he might be sending himself into the jaws of death. To use puppets to explore the way first was the most appropriate plan!

Woosh! Woosh!

The two puppets fired towards the Black Dragon Spear, one right one left!

As the puppets approached the Black Dragon Spear, the demonic energy gathered around the dragon spear became wild and violent. The demonic energy turned into a black dragon phantom that plunged towards the two puppets. In an instant, the two puppets were melted to nothing!

Juku was startled; he immediately took several steps back. Indeed, this spear wouldn't be easy to take. He had to find some other method to do so.

As he was deep in thought trying to think of some other way, his complexion immediately changed. He watched blankly on as the terrifying demonic energy melted away the two puppets and then hurtled towards their puppet master like it had a mind of its own!

Chapter 1698 – Bloodthirsty Black Dragon

This dragon-shaped black energy was able to determine and locate its true enemy!

Juku's complexion rapidly changed and he hurriedly drew backwards. However, that Black Dragon was far too fast. Although its body was only ten feet long, it hurtled through the air like a bolt of black lightning, immediately overtaking Juku!

Juku roared out loud and took out a heavy sword from his spatial ring, slashing down at the approaching Black Dragon phantom.

Juku's cultivation wasn't as high as Duke Fullmoon's, but in terms of talent he was slightly superior. Otherwise, it would have been impossible for him to obtain a spot in the final trial. As his heavy sword came slashing down, soul force gushed out like a tsunami.

However, that Black Dragon phantom ignored all of this. It rushed into that sea of soul force and split it apart. Not only did the Black Dragon not collapse but it instead swallowed up all of Juku's strength!

For a time, Juku was scared out of his mind. He rapidly touched his spatial ring, taking out a black-red divine runic symbol, but, the Black Dragon phantom was far too fast. Before Juku could activate the divine runic symbol, it had already bitten him!

Chi chi chi!

The Black Dragon phantom turned into countless threads of bloody black energy. It drilled into Juku's ears, nose... every single inch of Juku's body.

For some time, Juku's body wildly shook as black energy filled him. His originally tall and vigorous body began to wither away...

“Juku!”

Everything that occurred just now had happened in the blink of an eye. The Divine Void Crown Prince's complexion paled; he didn't dare to go forwards!

In this fearful pall, he didn't even dare to take a breath or turn around and escape, lest he alarm that terrifying Black Dragon!

“Damnit!”

The Divine Void Crown Prince clenched his jaws but he was helpless to do anything. He could only hold his breath and restrain his aura to avoid being detected by the Black Dragon.

After some time, a pile of broken bones, a husk of wrinkled skin, and a divine runic symbol that had just been taken out but not yet used began to scatter down from the air.

Seeing this, Duke Fullmoon couldn't help but shiver. His palms were already slick with a cold sweat. Luckily he hadn't been the one to attempt taking the black spear or his fate wouldn't have been much better; he was only a little stronger than Juku and there was an extremely limited number of things he could have done.

As the Black Dragon phantom in the air ate up all of Juku's essence energy and blood vitality it began to appear increasingly lifelike. It roared out again and again, its cold and grim pupils flashing with a gluttonous light. It stared at the Divine Void Third Crown Prince and Duke Fullmoon.

Caught in the phantom's gaze, Duke Fullmoon and the Divine Void Crown Prince felt as if they had fallen into a sea of ice!

Juku had died and they had only been able to watch helplessly on, not being able to assist him and not being able to run away. With the speed of the Black Dragon phantom that they witnessed with their own eyes, even if they used all of their strength to leave they still wouldn't even be 30% of its speed. They would be overtaken in the blink of an eye!

What they feared the most was the Black Dragon phantom discovering them. And now, as the Black Dragon phantom looked at them they both paled, their minds shaking!

Even so, they didn't dare move a single step!

After the Black Dragon phantom stared at the Divine Void Crown Prince and Duke Fullmoon for a quarter hour, leaving them both drenched with sweat, it turned tail and flew back to the giant rock, fusing back into the Black Dragon Spear and disappearing from sight.

It was only then that the Divine Void Crown Prince and Duke Fullmoon were able to let out a long breath of relief!

It was like all the strength had left their limbs, leaving them wobbly and exhausted. Their clothes were also wet; this experience was no different from suffering through a grueling war. To them, this short quarter hour felt as long as an entire year!

“How terrifying...”

Duke Fullmoon said, his voice shaking as he spoke. When facing a threat of true and unavoidable death, a martial artist's response wasn't much better than that of a mortal.

“What a heavy demonic energy... I finally know how that demonic energy formed... perhaps that Black Dragon phantom killed too many people and the hatred, resentment, and grievances of these victims gathered together, condensing into such a heavy demonic energy!”

“That Black Dragon phantom might be an artifact spirit... when we first didn't see the dragon spear and saw the Black Dragon, that might not have been an illusion. It was just that in the brief split-second, the Black Dragon had hidden itself in the spear... thus we had taken it as the dragon spear. This fellow... might have intentionally hidden itself in the spear so that we would lower our guard and draw closer. It wants to use our blood and flesh as its

food!”

“What a clever beast! In these past years who knows how many extraordinary elites have been killed by it, their blood nourishing it all this time. It must have consumed an incalculable amount of strength! But, what is strange is that it has clearly discovered us, but even though it desires flesh and blood it still doesn’t attack us.

“There might be some rule or contract restricting it. For instance, it cannot provoke others on its own initiative unless it’s been attacked first...”

Duke Fullmoon and the Divine Void Crown Prince were considered as people with strong wills. Although they were scared pale and shaking just now, after the danger had passed they were able to quickly calm down and analyze the situation.

“What should we do, give up?” Duke Fullmoon stared at the Black Dragon Spear. Although he wanted this spear, he also knew that he didn’t possess the ability to wield it, much less be able to obtain it. He wouldn’t be able to use many of the advantages from obtaining the spear, and obtaining it by himself was simply impossible.

Lucky chances always had to be contrasted to their dangers. With this, Duke Fullmoon developed the thought of retreating.

But the Divine Void Crown Prince actually licked his lips as if he were secretly considering something. Although he knew it would be tremendously dangerous, he still wasn’t willing to give up like this...

.....

“Too dangerous! Too dangerous!”

In the middle of the fourth level, two youths had just experienced a thrilling, soul-stirring escape from danger! Just then they had encountered a giant diamond ape!

This giant diamond ape was a ridiculous monster. Even the

combined all-out attacks of the two youths weren't able to injure its fur. As for the attacks of the giant diamond ape, just the aftermath alone was enough to shatter the two youths' protective true essence.

Originally, for these two youths to encounter such a disastrous monster, in ten encounters they would die ten times with no hopes of survival. Luckily, the giant diamond ape wasn't the most intelligent of monsters. Just when the two had fallen into hopeless despair, they had used an illusion technique to deceive the giant diamond ape and thus escape this danger.

After fleeing, their bodies had been drenched with a cold sweat and their hands and feet were feeling clammy.

"Big Brother, we're lucky you were smart enough to simulate our appearances with an illusion and use that to lead the monster away. That thing is simply the most terrifying vicious beast I have ever seen!" One of the two youths said as he raggedly gasped for breath.

"Second Brother, now isn't the time to relax. The giant diamond ape will discover it has been tricked sooner or later, and when it does it will become enraged. With our speed, it definitely might be able to catch up to us. We should flee this land as soon as we can."

As the two people were discussing fleeing, they looked at the boundless canopy of trees in front of them. These boundless giant trees pierced into the heavens, making them both feel strangely uncomfortable.

These trees were all massive, and not even 20-30 people would be able to encircle them.

The thick leaves layered over each other and a single leaf was the size of a bathtub. Originally, only a dim light filtered into this land, but walking into that forest would be the same as entering an utterly dark night.

These two youths were a pair of genius brothers that came from an ancient martial family at the far east side of the Asura Road. They had experienced repeated life or death situations to finally arrive at this area in the fourth level.

But, they never imagined that just after escaping one danger, there would always be another perilous danger just waiting around the corner!

“Awoooo!”

At this time, the roar of a vicious beast echoed out from the forest. This terrifying sound, joined together with a horrifying aura, washed out like an endless tidal wave. For a time, all of the nearby plants were sent flying away as the earth shook.

The two youths were also sent tumbling away by this voice and aura. For a time their faces were paper-white and they were at a loss for what to do. There was the giant diamond ape behind them and an unknown danger in front of them. This was truly a calamitous dilemma!

Bang –

From deep within the forest a terrifying explosion suddenly rang out, followed by the pained howls of giant beasts. It was like a thundercloud was rolling through the dense foliage.

Waves of energy transmitted out from the distance, like a sun was exploding, emitting a blinding light as a torrential torrent of essence energy rocketed to the horizon.

This strength was so great that the two youths felt a tingling feeling creep over their scalp and they nearly slumped to the ground.

“Big Brother, in front of us... is probably... something even more terrifying...”

The younger brother who spoke was already dripping wet with sweat. As he looked at the forest in front of him that not a single

ray of light could penetrate, he felt weak at heart.

Without a doubt, there was a brutal slaughter occurring within the depths of the forest!

The two brothers were at a loss of what to do. After ten breaths of time passed, the battle with the forest began to quiet down. Afterwards, a shadowy figure leapt out from the distant woods, impacting towards the heavens like a meteor! Then, as if this figure had discovered something, it suddenly switched directions in midair and hurtled towards the two brothers!

With an explosive rumbling, this figure crashed in front of the two brothers. The earth beneath them started cracking apart like a spider's web!

Dust scattered in all directions. An astonishing scent of blood filled the air, blasting into the noses of the two youths.

In that moment, standing in front of the two brothers was a man-shaped monster that seemed to have dug its way out from the pits of hell.

This monster stood tall and its hair hung loose. Its entire body was wet with dark red blood and black scales covered its body. These scales were absolutely not some kind of armor, but a part of its body.

It was normally impossible for a person to appear like this.

This man-shaped monster turned its head. Its two pupils were partly blocked by its loose hair, but even then they projected a horrifyingly sharp light.

Looking at these two pupils, the two youths were frightened out of their wits. Without a doubt, they were absolutely no match for this man-shaped monster.

This monster could kill them in but a mere instant.

Just by standing here, they felt as if they would die soon!

And at this time, the man-shaped monster actually didn't attack. Rather, its lips moved and it asked, "You two... do you know... where there are stronger monsters?"

The two youths were left dumbfounded. This monster could speak! Moreover, the way it spoke wasn't like a monster!

"It... it's... a person!"

The younger brother cried out in alarm. As they realized this they were both overjoyed. Looking carefully, they discovered that even though this person was bathed in blood and looked unbelievably fierce, and its body was also covered with scales like a monster's body might be, its face actually seemed quite familiar.

After staring for several breaths of time, the two youths nearly fell over in surprise.

This sword-sharp forehead, this swift and fierce look, as if his face were carved from sabers, this person was clearly...

"Y-y-y-y-you..." The young brother stuttered, pointing at this man-shaped monster, "Lin... Lin Ming!"

The two of them never would have imagined that this man-shaped monster was Lin Ming!

Chapter 1699 – Venturing Deeper Into the Fourth Level

These two brothers didn't recognize Lin Ming at the start. With a martial artist's senses, it would normally be impossible for them to make such a foolish mistake if they looked carefully. But at this time, Lin Ming's entire body was covered with scales and he was half a foot higher. His hair was thick and wild, like a savage born from the jungle.

Moreover, the scales around his body were dyed red with blood and his clothes had been torn to unrecognizable bits. It was impossible for one to see a trial challenger here; rather, all one could think of was an Asura demon from hell.

Before, these two brothers were already scared silly by the giant diamond ape, and as they saw this death star appear before them, all they could think was 'it's over, it's over, it's all over, we're all dead here'.

It was only when they realized this monster was Lin Ming that they relaxed a little. Even so, the shock in their hearts didn't dim in the least. If they weren't wrong, then the one that had been in that dreadful fight in the forest was Lin Ming!

Lin Ming looked at these two speechless ancient martial family geniuses. His voice was low as he asked, "Where... are stronger monsters?"

The two youths were stunned, not immediately answering. They had just been sent scurrying about by monsters and now Lin Ming was asking them where to find stronger ones?

What was he planning on doing?

Lin Ming frowned a little. Now that he entered the fourth level, he not only sought treasures here but also to temper and gain experience!

In the star-like immortal palace, Lin Ming had absorbed the drop of Asura blood. But because the strength contained within the Asura blood was excessively huge, he had been forced to divert it into the nine Dao Palaces. This meant that the astral essence, spirit essence, and true essence within Lin Ming's body were affected and their equilibrium was in disorder. Even the Heretical God Force, grandmist energy, black hole energy and Asura Heavenly Dao Laws within him had been affected, all of them becoming slightly restless.

With so many chaotic energies swirling within him, Lin Ming needed to straighten them out and have them fuse with his body. And, the best method to do so was to fight! Fight without end!

Thus, in the fourth level, while the other geniuses here were diligently searching for treasures and avoiding all the various monsters and dangers, Lin Ming was different.

To him, this fourth level was a training zone. He searched for monsters on his own initiative and fought them. Not only was he adjusting the strengths within his body but he was also honing the combat skills and fighting spirit from the Asura blood.

Lin Ming had spent far too long in the star-like immortal palace. He hadn't been in the fourth level for long, and when he first appeared, all that was around him was an endless forest. There was a considerable number of monsters in this forest but after a massacre that lasted for a full day and night, Lin Ming felt that although there was a high quantity of monsters here, their quality and strength were lacking. This wasn't enough to satisfy him.

In particular, after he stimulated the strength of the Asura blood, these monsters weren't even able to withstand three of his moves.

Thus, when he discovered these two trial challengers he dropped in front of them to ask where there were stronger monsters.

At this time, there was a loud rumbling sound on the distant horizon. Soon, an over 60 foot tall giant diamond ape hurtled

towards the three young men!

This ape was like a madly rushing ox, its speed reaching unbelievable velocities. At first it was on the horizon, but in just the blink of an eye it was within a thousand feet of the group!

In that moment, the two martial family youths both paled!

“G-g-g-giant diamond ape! It’s found us!”

“Shit! This is bad, we must scatter!”

The two youths shouted. But before they could even respond, beside them, the devil-like Lin Ming that was thick with the smell of blood suddenly moved. A brilliant fighting spirit ignited in his eyes and his figure flashed, leaving the two youths behind in a cloud of dust. Like a meteor rising into the sky, he shot straight towards that giant diamond ape!

The two youths were left dumbfounded. They even forgot about escaping.

In their experience, this giant diamond ape had a simply unimaginable strength. Yet, Lin Ming was hurtling towards it!

They didn’t doubt that Lin Ming was some sort of freakish genius that could instantly kill them, but facing this giant diamond ape that didn’t seem to possess any weakness at all, could Lin Ming really do anything?

Bang!

A massive impact force burst out from the collision of ape and man!

A blinding divine light burst out like a sharp sword, piercing into the heavens!

The giant diamond ape released a pained roar. Its chest had been punched by Lin Ming, leaving behind a deep hollow!

One of its ribs had been forcefully smashed apart by Lin Ming’s fist!

“F-fist...”

The two youths gulped, their throats twitching. They knew that Lin Ming’s weapon of choice was a spear, but when facing this giant diamond ape that hadn’t been injured by their all-out attacks, Lin Ming had only needed to use a fist to wound it!

Was he planning on fighting the giant diamond ape in hand-to-hand combat?

“Roar! Roar! Roar!”

The giant diamond ape was enraged!

This rage had come from being injured by a mere little human. The wound had been a provocation of its might and dignity!

The giant diamond ape grabbed at Lin Ming. But, Lin Ming’s speed was as fast as a bolt of lightning. His figure flashed and he immediately vanished from the giant diamond ape’s reach. In the next moment, Lin Ming’s right foot landed atop the giant diamond ape’s long arm.

Then, using this ape’s arm as a foothold, Lin Ming shot towards the giant diamond ape’s head!

Rumble rumble rumble!

Lin Ming punched out again and again, smashing at the giant diamond ape!

His fists tore through the void and cracked open the earth. Each fist contained an unimaginable strength!

The power of thunder and fire!

The power of heavenly tribulation!

Nine Stars of the Dao Palace!

Grandmist Laws!

Asura Heavenly Dao!

All of these different strengths sparked atop Lin Ming’s fist! In

the fierce barrage of attacks, all of these strengths began slowly fusing together!

In this close melee combat, every strike was like the strike of a forging hammer, hammering at the different strengths within Lin Ming's body, allowing him to comprehensively master and understand them!

Without using weapons, allowing the feel of every strike to vibrate through his flesh and bones, this method of tempering in allowing Lin Ming's body to directly accept the impact was far better!

For a time, energy wildly surged out. The roar of thunder filled the air as blood energy shot through the skies!

A thousand feet away, the two youths' jaws dropped open as they saw this earth-shaking battle. Their minds trembled and their bodies shook.

This was far too terrifying. This simply wasn't a strength that a human should have. Without using a weapon, Lin Ming was fighting the giant diamond ape in a hand-to-hand melee!

Rumble rumble rumble!

The speed of Lin Ming's fist strikes reached the limit. Even so, the giant diamond ape had a horrifying defensive power. Although Lin Ming's fists contained the strength of several dragons, he still couldn't fatally injure the beast.

But with fist after fist accumulating, the internal organs of the giant diamond ape, including its blood vessels, fascia, everything began to develop heavy internal injuries.

However, in such close range melee, no matter how fast or nimble Lin Ming was, he was unable to completely avoid all of the giant diamond ape's attacks.

Lin Ming punched at the giant diamond ape's eyelids, smashing in one of its eyes. The giant diamond ape suddenly roared out loud

and brought a hand crashing down on Lin Ming's back!

Kacha!

With a loud explosive sound, the black scales on Lin Ming's back solidly withstood this strike!

This horrifying impact force was like being struck by a planet. Lin Ming was sent flying backwards, crashing through and snapping several dozen old trees. Finally, with a thunderous sound, he crashed into the ground, sending endless plumes of rock and dirt splashing upwards.

"This... this..."

The two ancient martial family juniors were left in a daze, unable to come up with any words. To have one's body be directly struck by the giant diamond ape, what sort of concept was that?

Perhaps even a saint World King powerhouse would be split in half by the attack!

Just as this thought flashed in their minds, before they could decide whether or not they should continue fleeing there was a stir in the wreckage. In the area where Lin Ming landed, there was a loud eruption of chaos as a blood-drenched Lin Ming leapt upwards from the cracked earth like a wild tiger!

Many of the scales on his back had broken apart, but they didn't completely shatter. Rivulets of blood began leaking out from between the scales.

These scales were far beyond any normal armor!

The scales were engraved with runes of the Asura Heavenly Dao Laws. As an impact force spread through the layers of scales, it would be rapidly reduced. Then, when the impact force reached Lin Ming's true body, it wouldn't have enough strength to truly wound his organs and meridians!

As the giant diamond ape saw this, fear finally began to fill its

eyes.

It roared at Lin Ming, wanting to intimidate, but Lin Ming was unmoved. One step at a time, Lin Ming moved forwards.

The giant diamond ape retreated again and again, terrified.

Finally, it wasn't able to withstand the dreadful pressure rolling off of Lin Ming. To the shock of the two ancient martial family geniuses, the beast turned tail and fled!

"It's running... running away!"

"The giant diamond ape, an ancient vicious beast, was actually forced to run away by Lin Ming's fist..."

The two youths were inexplicably shocked.

But at this moment, Lin Ming stepped forwards and chased after the beast!

Although the giant diamond ape wasn't the smartest of beasts, it possessed an amazingly fast movement speed.

However, when compared to Lin Ming, it was simply far too slow!

In just several breaths of time, the beast had been overtaken by Lin Ming.

On the distant horizon, another brutal fight began!

Lin Ming still didn't use a weapon. The giant diamond ape howled out mournfully again and again!

Lin Ming's fists struck solid flesh again and again!

Finally, too many internal injuries had accumulated. The giant diamond ape vomited out a mouthful of blood that was awash with bits and pieces of organs.

After countless punches by Lin Ming, the giant diamond ape that was as large as an iron tower was struck dead, all of its organs having been burst apart. It keeled over to the ground.

Lin Ming stood on the corpse of the giant diamond ape and pulled out the monster crystal from within its body, placing it into his spatial ring. Then, he slowly walked away.

As the two ancient martial family youths saw the entirely bloodstained Lin Ming walking over to them, they felt all of their courage shatter. It was hard for them to withstand the terrifying pressure released by Lin Ming!

This was because the infernal energy swirling around Lin Ming's body was too heavy. In addition to the power of the Grandmist Laws, Asura Heavenly Dao, and Heretical God Force that lingered around him, these invisible energies created an intangible force field with him at the center. If a normal martial artist were to stand in the range of this force field, they would find it difficult to withstand!

Even these outstanding trial challengers from ancient martial families weren't an exception!

“Where... are stronger monsters?”

This was the third time Lin Ming had asked this question.

The two youths felt their arms trembling. They had already confirmed that this freak Lin Ming had come to the fourth level to fight!

His main purpose here was not to seek treasures, but to fight! He was no different from a madman!

“Deep... deeper in... the deeper you venture into the fourth level, the stronger the monsters will be. In the fourth level, the deeper it is, the more lucky chances there are, but the dangers will also be correspondingly greater... in the fourth level... besides the Divine Void Crown Prince and Bigflame's squads... there are not many other squads... that are willing to go so deep...”

The older of the two martial artists haltingly said as he pointed towards a direction. That direction he pointed in led deeper into

the fourth level.

Chapter 1700 – Plot

At the third level of the final trial, when a martial artist received their reward they would be teleported alone to the fourth level. But, those that received the same level of rewards took around the same amount of time to do so, thus they entered the fourth level at nearly the same time. Even if they were transmitted to random locations, they could still quickly find one or two of their companions to form temporary squads.

However, for Lin Ming, because he had spent too much time on the blue stone road, he arrived much later than everyone else. By this time, many people had already been fighting for several days.

“Deeper into the fourth level... I understand...”

Lin Ming nodded at the two youths and turned around, slowly heading deeper into the fourth level.

Strong winds howled and the scent of blood filled the world. As he sped forwards, his back was as straight as a spear, standing proudly upon this desolate wasteland, filled with a heroic and daring momentum!

The nine suns in the skies slowly fell down beyond the horizon, signaling the approach of night.

Lin Ming was like a death god wandering the night. Whether it was the forests, wilderness, or glaciers, he advanced in a straight line. No matter what monsters, evil races or demonic beings came at him, he didn't use his spear but fought them with his hands!

Like this, Lin Ming crossed past the middle of the fourth level and continued towards the back.

This was a black and red swamp. In the night, the swamp emitted a misty black fog which contained the rotting aura of peerless powerhouses and desolate ancient vicious beasts that had perished here. If a lower level martial artist were to breathe in the gas here,

all the flesh of their body would melt away!

Within this terrifying black fog, a massive number of cruel and vile spirits and ghosts would be born. To a trial challenger, this was a danger zone amongst danger zones!

If a common squad were to arrive here, they would have turned tail and fled.

But Lin Ming actually walked directly into this land!

Chi chi chi!

Behind Lin Ming, the phantom of an Asura appeared. This Asura held a massive wheel in his hands, and spinning above this wheel were countless phantoms of suffering demons. This was the Myriad Demon Karmic Wheel!

The Myriad Demon Karmic Wheel rose up into the air, revolving and forming a giant vortex. A tremendous amount of the black fog was sucked into the Myriad Demon Karmic Wheel and refined into pure energy!

Wu wu wu ~

The ear-piercing howls of malevolent spirits rose up through the world. Because Lin Ming was recklessly swallowing up the black fog in this swamp, he had aroused the evil spirits here. Ghostly purple flames flickered as spectral beings appeared in front of Lin Ming.

A giant python corpse brought its giant head up from the rancid swamp mud. Its gaping maw emitted black gas that could melt away divine iron...

Seeing this, Lin Ming simply smiled.

These ghosts and spirits deep in the fourth level didn't leave him disappointed. Whether it was in numbers or strength, they far surpassed the evil beings that lived in the periphery of the fourth level.

With an explosive roar, Lin Ming opened the Heretical God Force. Power erupted from his body and the phantom of the Heretical God Tree appeared behind him. The power of thunder and fire heavenly tribulation came pouring out, sparkling!

Whether it was thunder or fire, they were the nemesis of ghosts. Lin Ming wrapped himself in thunder and flames and hurtled towards these spectral spirits!

Rumble rumble rumble!

A terrifying explosion of air surged out. Flames ascended, arcs of thunder twisted about. Each and every ghost was pierced through by Lin Ming's thunder and fire, turned to ash and sent scattering into the wind!

A terrifying strength exploded in the air. The corpse python howled as its decayed body was rapidly swallowed up by the power of Heavenly Dao Judgment's thunder and fire!

Woosh –

With a light sound, a piece of information thrust into Lin Ming's mind.

A thought appeared in Lin Ming's consciousness – fourth level, completion, max!

He had completed the fourth level to the maximum possible?

Lin Ming's thoughts stirred. As he slaughtered his way through the fourth level he hadn't been paying attention to the growth of his completion rate.

When Lin Ming first passed the Asura level Gate of Laws, his completion rate had reached 45%. As for the third level, there were only rewards there; Lin Ming's completion rate hadn't increased.

And now, in the fourth level, Lin Ming's completion rate rose by 15%, reaching all the way to 60%!

This number was already the maximum allowed. No matter how

many more monsters he killed this number wouldn't increase.

However, Lin Ming didn't bother with this. The reason he came to the fourth floor was to slaughter as many enemies as possible to temper himself, not for completion percentage!

Kill!

Kill everything!

Kill! Kill! Kill!

Lin Ming wildly laughed and broke into the crowds of monsters and ghosts, his fists sweeping out. Thunder and fire howled around him as he killed ten ghosts in a single step!

.....

As Lin Ming was crazily fighting and tempering himself, deep in the fourth level, beneath the icy cold skies, the Divine Void Crown Prince and Duke Fullmoon had come to a pause.

They didn't approach the black rock in front of them nor did they dare approach the Black Dragon Spear. But, to leave just like this wasn't something they were willing to do.

"Your Highness, there are only a dozen or so more days until... the channel to the fifth level opens. We must find a solution as soon as possible or give up on the dragon spear."

Duke Fullmoon explained. In truth he had already given birth to the thought of retreating. Even if he helped in obtaining the Black Dragon Spear, the advantages he would obtain would be limited.

It was better to give up on this futile quest and save his own life.

The Divine Void Crown Prince's complexion darkened. The fourth level was shaped like a massive rectangle. The trial challengers started on one end and the further they went towards the other end, the deeper into the fourth level they would go and the greater the risks would be. Generally speaking, the passage from the fourth level to the fifth level would always appear around

the middle of this rectangle.

In other words, as long as one arrived at the middle of the fourth level they would be able to enter the fifth level.

Once the channel to the fifth level opened, it would also take time to turn around and arrive at the middle.

Moreover, they had to kill a sufficient number of monsters in order to obtain the max completion percentage here. Up until now they had only slain 60% of the required monsters. They weren't as fierce as Lin Ming who was wildly killing his way through this level. Rather, they had to be selective in choosing their enemies and avoid the terrifying fellows that lurked here.

As the Divine Void Crown Prince was lost in a dilemma, he heard a whistling sound come from the distance.

He looked up, his guard raised, to see a brilliant flame approaching from the far off horizon.

This flame blotted out the skies. In the center of these flames, a fat youth in bright yellow imperial robes was sitting on a firebird, flying over towards them.

And behind this fat youth was a young warrior covered in silver armor that radiated a dazzling light, as if his armor had been encrusted with stars.

This warrior hurtled through the sky, the air rippling around him. Visible ripples followed him in the air, clearly demonstrating his formidable strength.

“Bigflame?” The Divine Void Crown Prince's eyes filled with disgust. At this time this tubby fellow had actually come here. Really, enemies crossed paths far too often!

However, this was also well within reason. Out of all the squads in the fourth level, there was only an extremely small number of trial challengers that had the courage to venture this far. Bigflame's group was one such squad.

Thus, bumping into him here wasn't a coincidence at all.

Suddenly, a ruthless hostility flashed through the Divine Void Crown Prince's mind. He extracted his weapon, killing intent surging out from him as he faced Bigflame!

He said to Duke Fullmoon with a sound transmission, "Fullmoon, follow me and put on a good play!"

Duke Fullmoon immediately understood what was happening and extracted his weapon. The two people turned towards Bigflame, one left one right, as if they were guarding the Black Dragon Spear behind them. As they faced the disciples of Heaven Union Divine Kingdom's Divine Sovereign as well as that amazingly strong silver armored warrior, it seemed as if they were ready to fight at any moment!

"What? You want to fight?"

Seeing Duke Fullmoon and the Divine Void Crown Prince be so vigilant, Bigflame happily smiled. "There's no need to be so tense, we're just a little bit disharmonious, right? There's no need to fight as soon as we see each other! You should know that our two sides have similar strength. If we fight, it won't be good for anyone!"

Bigflame sneered. But at this time he caught sight of the massive black rock behind Duke Fullmoon and the Divine Void Crown Prince.

As well as the Black Dragon at the top of the rock!

"Dragon!?" Bigflame was shocked. However, he immediately shook his head. "No, that's not right! That's a dragon spear! Hahaha! That is a treasure surpassing the level of an Empyrean spirit treasure! We've really struck a big lucky chance this time!"

Seeing this dragon spear, Bigflame's eyes shone with a greedy light!

As Bigflame flanked the Divine Void Crown Prince and Duke

Fullmoon who had raised their weapons, he said, “No wonder they’re being so vigilant. So it’s because there is a treasure here.”

“Bigflame, this Black Dragon Spear is already mine! You had best get out of my way!” The Divine Void Crown Prince icily said as he stared at Bigflame.

Bigflame didn’t even bother looking at the Divine Void Crown Prince; his burning gaze was locked onto the Black Dragon Spear, his emotions bubbling over with excitement.

When he entered the fourth level his group had searched for lucky chances everywhere. But up until now, they had only picked up some medicinal herbs that weren’t too precious as well as several remnant pieces of ancient cultivation methods. These harvests weren’t enough to satisfy Bigflame.

It wasn’t until he ventured deep into the fourth level that he was attracted by a vast and terrifying aura. Thus, he arrived here only to discover that the Divine Void Third Crown Prince and Duke Fullmoon had already arrived a step early.

“You two should be the ones getting out of my way! That treasures is mine and mine alone!” Bigflame’s chubby face stretched as he smiled. Then, he took out a blood red saber from his spatial ring and slashed it out. A great saber light filled the air, covering Duke Fullmoon and the Third Crown Prince.

At the same time, Bigflame launched a movement technique. His round body was unexpectedly fast, as speedy as a bolt of lightning. As Duke Fullmoon and the Third Crown Prince were covered in his saber light, he swooped down to grab the Black Dragon Spear!

His speed was incredibly fast. Just as he was about to step onto the black rock, a vague restless nervousness appeared in his heart – strange, something was wrong here... this treasure... could it really be obtained so easily?

Could the Divine Void Crown Prince have deliberately allowed

him to take it!?

At this time, Bigflame suddenly caught sight of something from the corners of his eyes. There, at the wasteland below him, was the withered corpse of someone. This person's face was already mutilated to the point of being indescribable, but what was abundantly clear was that this withered skin bag of bones was new.

This person had just died here!

Bigflame immediately felt that the situation was dire!

As the most favored direct disciple of Heaven Union Divine Kingdom's Divine Sovereign, Bigflame was no fool. He forcefully stopped himself in midair and hastily drew backwards!

In the blink of an eye, Bigflame had returned to his original position. He hadn't alarmed the Black Dragon Spear but his forehead was dripping with a cold sweat. Just now he had taken a trip to the gate of death!

Bigflame sneered, his eyes filling with murderous intent as he looked towards the Divine Void Crown Prince. "Hehe, what a clever plan you had!"

The Divine Void Crown Prince shrugged, "It seems you aren't as dumb as I thought. You were actually able to see through my plans... what a pity!"

The Divine Void Crown Prince didn't care about Bigflame. He just didn't think that Bigflame would find a clue in the crucial moment and escape this calamity.

Bigflame savagely grinned, "What use is there in harming me? You probably couldn't take the dragon spear yourself. On the contrary..."

As Bigflame spoke to here he sensed something and turned around. On the far off horizon, there was another swift and fierce aura rapidly approaching!

“How interesting, it seems someone else has arrived!”

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